BAGHDAD (R) - The Soviet Union is consulting other members of the United Nations Security Council as well as Iran and Iraq about possible sanctions against Tehran to enforce a Gulf war ceasefire, a senior Soviet official said Saturday. Gaibnazar Pallayev, a vice-president of the Supreme Soviet, told a news conference: "A second (Security Council) resolution supposed to carry sanctions and an arms embargo against Iran, the party which does not apply the ceasefire order, is under discussion at the United Nations. The Soviet Union has for some time been consulting other Security Council member states and both Iraq and Iran on further steps to adopt a second Security Council resolution to impose sanctions on the party which refuses to implement Resolution 598." Moscow did not oppose such a resolution, he said. "But we think there is an urgent need to prepare the correct resolution to be an effective step in solving the prepare the correct resolution to be an energy step in solving the conflict." He said Moscow would continue its efforts, "in a balanced way," to convince Tehran to accept a ceasefire. Washington has previously accused Moscow of obstructing action on an arms embargo resolution, but Pallayev said those who made such accusations were trying

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PLO seeks help to ensure voyage of 'peace ship'

Division College

TUNIS (R) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat has asked the United Nations to ensure that a group of Palestinian deportees is not prevented from returning by sea to Palestine. He made the appeal in a message to U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuelfar, U.N. Security Council President Vernon Walters and the head of the London-based scow Circu human rights group Amnesty In-ternational. "We have no doubt about your support of these peo-Political Royal Sec ple's right to realise their wish to return to their motherland. We ask you to exercise your effective influence to ensure their secure The welching arrival in their motherland." Arafat said.

Iraq reports attack on ship

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ath penalt

on bail

BAHRAIN (AP) — Iraq Saturday reported a fresh attack on Iranian oil shipping lanes, seeking to keep up pressure on its Gulf war foe and force Tehran to accept a negotiated end to their seven-year-old conflict. A war communique issued in Baghdad said Iraqi jet fighters attacked a "large maritime target," military terminology for an oil tanker, at 10 p.m. (1900 GMT) Friday. Our heroic air force will pursue its chase of Iranian maritime targets and destroy its oil resources, whose revenue is being exploited to continue the aggression on Iraq," said the communi-que, read on Baghdad Radio.

Vatican official meets Siniora

VATICAN CITY (AP) — The Vatican's foreign minister Satur-day met with Hanna Siniora, editor of the Jerusalem Al Fajr newspaper, the second Palestinian figure he received this week. The Vatican did not release details of the 30-minute meeting between Monsignor Achille Silvestrini and Siniora. Silvestrini Thursday met with Farouk Kaddoumi, head of the political affairs department of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). After the meeting with Kaddoumi, the Vatican issued a statement saying the PLO official "expressed the gratitude of the Palestinians for the moral support that the Holy See gives to the cause of the Palestinian people" and said the Holy See is anxious to find a solution "acceptable to all" involved in the Palestinian problem.

Swiss march against Israeli policy

BASLE (R) — About 500 demonstrators, some masked, marched through Switzerland's second largest city Saturday to protest against Israeli policy in the occupied territories, police said. In a statement, the protesters demanded recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and condemned Israel's policy of military oppres-

Khomeini sets up arbitration panel

NICOSIA (AP) — Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini Saturday appointed a commission of ranking Iranian clergymen and politicians to rule in legal and administrative disputes between parliament and the powerful religious Council of Guardians. Khomeini's decree came in a letter disclosed by Tehran Radio.

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Palestinians clash with Israeli troops in Hebron, Jerusalem

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli troops shot and wounded two Palestinian demonstrators in the Israel-occupied West Bank Saturday and police fired teargas at Arab protesters in several Jerusalem neighbourhoods.

Soldiers opened fire after tear-gas and rubber bullets failed to disperse stone-throwing protes-ters in the village of Bani Naim,

people.

Israelis have shot dead at least 43 Palestinians since anti-Israeli protests began in the occupied

neighbourhood of Arab Jerusalem, just outside the walled Old

City, reports said.
The demonstrators raised Palestinian flags, blocked streets with burning tyres and threw rocks at police who arrested at least one protester.

The crack of tear-gas launchers could be heard and smoke from burning tyres rose from several



Arab demonstrators burn tyres and huri stones at Israeli troops in Nablus

Qadhafi ends Tunis visit, meets Benjedid

TUNIS (Agencies) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi left Tunisia for a surprise visit to Algeria Saturday, the latest in a series of contacts with North

African countries. Qadhafi discussed his ideas for union between the region's Arab states with President Zine Al Abidine Ibn Ali during his twoday visit to Tunisia.

Qadhafi is said to have proposed the formation of a union linking Libya with Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco.

Algeria is spearheading efforts to persuade Libya to join an existing regional non-aggression (Continued on page 5)

Murphy holds talks with Syrian leaders in Damascus

Syrian officials Saturday to discuss American proposals for Arab-Israeli peace talks.

Damascus Radio said Saturday the United States should adopt an unbiased policy and proposals "must take into considerations the necessity of ending the

(Israeli) occupation."
The visit followed two months of Palestinian protests in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip that lent new urgency to efforts to help achieve a settle-

ment of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Murphy, assistant secretary of state for Near East affairs, met for 5½ hours with Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa after arriving in the Syrian capital earlier in the day. He was expected to meet

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — U.S. Vice-President Abdul Halim envoy Richard Murphy met with Khaddam in the evening and Khaddam in the evening and President Hafez Al Assad on Sunday.

"We had good long talks with the minister and his colleagues now," Murphy said after his meeting with Sharaa. He added: "It covered ideas on

the concept of the peace process. It covered the Gulf war, the need to move ahead to get that resolved. We also discussed Lebanon and certain aspects of our bilateral relations. Murphy refused to disclose the

outcome of the talks. "The outcome, I find, is always better if not immediately shared with the media."

He said he was carrying a letter

(Continued on page 5)

Settlers buried 4 Arabs alive'

TUNIS (R) — A Senior Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official said Saturday that armed Israeli settlers buried alive four young Palestinians from a village in the Israeli-occupied West Bank who were later discovered and

Bassam Åbu Sherif, an adviser to PLO leader Yasser Arafat, told Reuters the settlers beat up inhabitants of Salem, near Nablus, under the protection of Israeli soldiers.

They then rounded up 12 young Palestiniaus, four of whom were found buried alive on the outskirts of the village. The rest are still missing, he

He named the four as Mohsen and Zaccaria Hamdan, aged 19 and 15 respectively, and Abdul Latif and Isem Shteyah, both 20.

Abu Sherif repeated PLO appeals to the United Nations to protect Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied territories, where at least 43 Palestinian have been shot dead by Israeli troops in two months of anticcupation uprising. In Tel Aviv an army spokes

an denied the report. Reports from the West Ba and Gaza indicate that Jewisl settlers have stepped up a cam-paign of violence against

Settlers have snatched stor hrowers in roadside 'arrests,'' smashed windows of Arab cars, set up armed road natrols, and on several occaions opened fire on Arab de-Last week near Bethlehem

Arabs hurled rocks at a bus carrying settlers past Dheish refugee camp. Camp residents said half a dozen settlers got off the bus, chased the boys at gunpoint and took three or four with them.

Residents of the Kiryat Arba settlement near Hebron set up armed road patrols last week, saying they wanted to provide a greater sense of "security" to Jewish settlers.

Settlers entered the northern West Bank town of Anabta last Monday, violating a curfew and smashing several car windows in a nighttime raid.

The incident came after

Israeli settlers and soldiers confronted demonstrators in Anabta earlier that day. The Israelis opened fire, killing at least three people and wounding three.

King urges EC to bring about change in U.S. position on peace conference

BONN (Agencies) - His Majesty King Hussein has called on the European Community (EC) to exert its influence with the U.S. and accelerate efforts to convene an international conference on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The King, now on a private visit to France after talks with Italian and French leaders, accused the U.S. in an interview with West German Radio of hindering efforts to set up a peace conference by allowing itself to be swayed by extremist elements in Israel.

The King urged EC ministers, whom he is scheduled to meet in Bonn Monday, to "use all your influence for a change in the U.S. position," north German Radio reported Saturday. Excerpts from the interview were carried by

According to the Washington Times, senior Jordanian officials accompanying King Hussein on his just concluded visit to France said that special American envoy Philip Habib, last Saturday in Amman, had "hinted at" U.S. willingness to accept an interna-

as peace efforts in the region. The talks, held at the Prime Ministry, were led on the Jordanian side by Deputy Prime Minis-ter and Minister of Education Thoukan Al Hindawi and on the Bulgarian side by Vice-President Peter Tanchev who arrived here



His Majesty the King

tional peace conference under U.N. aegis with the participation of the Soviet Union and other permanent Security Council

The Jordanians cautioned that it was "simply too early" to tell how serious Washington is about holding such a conference, which

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, the Times said.

EC reaffirms support West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher said Saturday that the EC must use its influence to press for an interna-tional Middle East peace conference that would lead to direct

Arab-Israeli talks. He told a West German radio station that the EC endorsed an international peace conference a year ago and was sticking to its

"We (the EC) now want throw

our weight on the scales," he said, referring to efforts to convene the international conference.

"It's matter of opening actual possibilities for direct negotiations between all affected parties, and for that an international peace conference under U.N. auspices could be the right forum. he said.

Genscher, the current chairman of the community's foreign ministers' conference, will head a meeting Monday which will be attended by King Hussein.

in the past has been opposed by both the United States and Israeli Jordan, Bulgaria discuss Mideast situation

AMMAN (Petra) - Jordan and Bulgaria bègan talks here Saturday on the latest political de-velopments in the Middle East and issues related to the Palestinian problem in particular as well

deliver a message to His Majesty King Hussein from Bulgarian President Todor Zhivkov. During Saturday's talks, the two

sides voiced backing of efforts aimed at achieving just and durable peace in the Middle East through an international peace conference attended by all parties involved in the conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), and the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council.

During the visit, the first leg of a tour of the region, Tanchev will

On the Iran-Iraq war, the two sides stressed the need for supporting efforts aimed at ending

the war through enforcing U.N. Security Council Resolution 598. Saturday's discussions also covered trade and economic coop-

eration and bilateral relations. The talks were attended on the Jordanian side by Minister of Agriculture Marwan Al Hmoud, Minister of State for Prime Ministry Affairs Fayez Tarawneh and

other senior officials.
On the Bulgarian side the talks were attended by members of the delegation accompanying the vice-president and Bulgarian Ambassador to Jordan Yanticho

GCC steps up efforts for ceasefire in Iran-Iraq war

By Rana Sabbagh

Reuter

AMMAN — Arab Gulf states are stepping up diplomatic efforts to enforce a United Nations resolution ordering a ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war, a senior regional official said Saturday.

"All our efforts are now concentrated on implementing the U.N.'s July 20 call for an end to the war," Abdullah Bishara, secretary-general of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), told Reuters.

"We are keen to see this resolution enforced... we want to decrease tensions in the Gulf," he

Bishara said the GCC had sent envoys to win support for a Security Council meeting to dis-

cuss Iran's rejection of a cease-

Saudi Arabian Foreign Minis-ter Prince Saud Al Faisal visited Moscow last week and urged the Soviet Union to join efforts to force Iranian compliance. He is due to meet U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz Tuesday. Iran has agreed to a dialogue,

largely promoted by Syria, for talks with the GCC on improving ties strained by the war and differing political and religious

"The general trend among us (the GCC) now is to search for new ways to deepen the existing GCC-Iranian talks to ease tepsion in the Gulf," said Bishara, in Amman to attend a seminar on

Mubarak returns nome

CAIRO (Agencies) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak returned home Saturday from an eight-nation tour during which he sought support for a new peace drive in the Middle East.

He declined to comment on a new U.S. initiative in the Middle East, telling reporters at Cairo airport: "It's mere press remarks."

The two-week trip took him to the United States, West Ger-many, Britain, France, Morocco, Italy, Greece and Turkey. In Rome he also had an audience at the Vatican with Pope John Paul. Mubarak has proposed a six-month cooling-off period in the occupied territories, during which Israel would halt new Jewish settlements, leading to an interna-

tional peace conference. Mubarak's calls for a conference won wide backing in West-

ern Europe.
According to Israeli officials, Washington is seeking through indirect negotiations between Israel, Jordan, Egypt and Palesti-nians to achieve an interim arrangement for Arab "self-rule" in the occupied West Bank and

Gaza Strip from early 1989. The U.S. proposals, as reported by the Israelis, make no mention of an international conference which, as envisaged by most Arab states, would involve the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council as well as the parties to the conflict.

Turkey renews backing

Turkey renewed its backing for the proposal for an international Middle East peace conference Saturday after the 24-bour visit by Mubarak.

President Kenan Evren, Prime Minister Turgut Ozal and other officials took part in talks with Mubarak.

"Turkey and Egypt support Palestinian resistance in the territories... an international conference is the only way to a just and peaceful solution," Foreign Ministry spokesman Inal Batu

Television film of Israelis beating Palestinians have sparked some indignation among Turkey's mostly Muslim population of 55 million and the right-wing Tercuman newspaper sponsored a day of prayer Friday.

remains whether the American formula will meet the minimum demands of the parties involved, especially the Arabs, and more significantly the Palestinians in the occupied territories, he added.

Doubts and cynicism

by U.S. statements about moves in the area, have produced mixed reactions from Jordanian and Palestinian personalities The overwhelming trend has been to voice doubts and cynicism

over the U.S. policy in the region in general. Analysts do not seem to pin much importance to the reports but rather focus on

all variations of Camp David," said former Deputy Prime Minister Suleiman Arar.
According to Abdul Jawad Saleh, head of the Jerusalem Centre

for Development Studies and former mayor of Al Bireh in the West Bank, "in essence, the American position has not underthe 1982 Reagan plan."

In Saleh's view, no American initiative has dealt with the political essence of the Arab-Israeli conflict, and all proposals overlooked the Palestinian question.

In addition, the analysts say, the "strategic alliance" between Israel and the U.S. will prevent the formulation of a balanced American policy.

"If we look at Reagan's background for the past eight years, he has not been serious, not even on his own initiative. So why should he now force the Israelis into any peace initiative?" asked

(Continued on page 5)

By Lamis Andoni and Najwa Najjar Jordan Times Staff Reporters

AMMAN - As the Palestinian uprising continues in the occupied West Bank and Gaza there are indications that the U.S. may launch a fresh initiative to reinvigorate efforts for peace in the Middle East. So far, there have been conflicting reports on the substance of the intended American moves. Regardless of the contents and the nature of the new American

Washington's intention and willingness to draw closer to the Arab demands for a just settlement of the Palestinian question. Some even express the view that any American move would aim at 'containing the uprising and strengthening the Israeli stand." Most analysts interviewed by the Jordan Times brushed aside the possibility that the Americans could present an even-handed formula, but some believed that the recent developments have led

ideas, analysts and politicians express strong scepticism over

the U.S. to consider new ideas acceptable to all sides involved in the conflict. Over the last two weeks reports in the Israeli and American press stated that the U.S. was putting forth new proposals to

revive the Middle East process. According to most of these reports, the "new American initiative" is based on the 1978 Camp David peace treaty between Egypt and Israel in that it refocuses the attention on the concept of "self-rule" for the 1.5 million Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza.

Main principles

Although the nature of the American "ideas" has not been clarified yet, contacts made by the Jordan Times with Western diplomats and Jordanian officials and a reading of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz testimony to Congress last week indicate that the main principles of the new American move appear to be

— The U.S. is trying to combine new and old ideas in order to blend a new workable formula for peace in the Middle East; - Since the procedure and forms of negotiations have been a point of difference among the parties involved, the new formula will focus on "substance" rather than procedure;

This means, according to one diplomat, the focus of American contacts with the various parties involved is on "what the whole

process would lead to." In other words, it seems that the Americans are seeking the approval of the parties involved on the final goal of negotiations rather than the negotiating procedures.

— American officials refuse to disclose much about the substance

except that "it is not self-rule by itself"; thus it is not simply a variation of Camp David, but a more advanced formula. - According to Western diplomatic sources, the Palestinian aspiration to end the occupation as expressed by the uprising is taken into consideration by Washington.

Change in approach

A former Jordanian diplomat who follows American politics very closely said that the new signals coming from Washington indicated a change in the American approach to the peace process." Until recently the Americans were concentrating on the process itself, while Arab countries were more concerned with what the negotiations would lead to," said the former diplomat, who asked not to be named.

In his view, what has been disclosed so far about the new

American ideas "fits very well with Shultz's perception of the situation in the region and with his understanding of the mechanism of a peace process." The former diplomat pointed out that the main principles which

First, that the solution should come from the area. "The American government have repeatedly implied that it was going to react and act," he noted. The second factor is that American officials, particularly

defined American position of the peace process had been the

Shultz, have been always focusing on the occupied territories "almost as a separate issue from the whole crisis." Thus, the uprising has fulfilled "the two preconditions" which would warrant an American reaction. "The uprising presented an action by the one of the parties involved (the Palestinians under occupation) in the area which is seen by the Americans as the

crisis area," said the former diplomat. "Therefore I believe that Shultz means it when he talks about reinvigorating the peace process," he said. But the question

Lebanon (See page 3). New American 'initiative' draws doubts, cynicism from analysts

In the absence of an official American confirmation and disclosure of the nature of these new ideas, press reports, coupled

their perception of a consistent American trend. "I don't think that the U.S. has new ideas, they (the ideas) are

gone real changes. It has been an extension of Camp David and

Other analysis believe that the present U.S. administration is not serious on any moves towards peace in the region, since 1988 is an election year and presidential candidates are more concerned with elections than with finding a solution to the Palestinian problem, a controversy in the U.S.

U.S.-Israel alliance

Car-bomb kills Amal commander in Beirut

BEIRUT (AP) - A booby-trapped car exploded in a raked three French embassy South Beirut Shi'ite Muslim district Saturday, killing a local militia commander, police said.

Abbass Awadah, 33, commander of Justice Minister Nabih Berri's Shi'ite Amal militia in the suburban Bir Al Abed district, police

The explosion occurred at 8:30 a.m. (0630 GMT), when Awadah turned on the ignition of his car to go to work. Three pedestrians suffered slight shrapnel injuries, police added.

No group claimed responsibility for the slaying.

The blast scene is about 50 metres away from the residence of Sheikh Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah, spiritual guide of the pro-Iranian Hezbollah extremist

But police said the influential cleric was not a target.

Bomb defused near Air France office

Meanwhile an army explosives expert safely defused a powerful car bomb near an Air France office in Christian east Beirut early Saturday, police said.

They said army warrant officer Youssef Bitar, who defused the bomb, estimated its power at 40 kilogrammes (88 pounds).

The charge was rigged in a blue Peugeot automobile parked in front of a sales office for Air France, the French national carrier in east Beirut's suburban district of Jal Al Deeb. There was no one at the office

BEIRUT (AP) - United Na-

tions officials said Saturday they

expected two kidnapped Scandinavians working for the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees (UNRWA) to

Their abduction is not politic-

al. It seems to be related to a

recent dismissal of six local em-

ployees," said one Arab UN-

RWA official, who spoke on con-

Masked gunmen in two cars

rammed a marked U.N. vehicle

at a highway bridge outside South

Lebanon's port city of Sidon Fri-

day and grabbed a Swede and a

Norwegian serving as UNRWA

The agency's chief spokesman

Niall Kiely identified the victims

as Jan Stening, 44, of Sweden,

and William Jorgensen, 58, of

UNŔWA's top manager in

Beirut has called the abduction a

"tremendous mistake" and

warned that if the two were not

freed soon all staff foreigners of

the agency would be pulled out of

said Stening conducted a "hush-

hush investigation that revealed

massive thefts of fuel and medical

supplies from UNRWA's phar-

The Arab UNRWA official

area operations supervisors.

be released soon.

dition of anonymity.

Norway

Lebanon.

The victim was identified as when the bomb was discovered and dismantled around 12:30 a.m. (2230 GMT Friday), police

seriously wounded.

on Sept. 18, 1986.

bility for the killings.

Military Attache Col. Christian

Gouttierre, 60, was shot and kil-

led near the embassy's compound

in east Beirut's Hazmieh district

No group has claimed responsi-

The Armenian Secret Army for

the Liberation of Armenia (ASA-

LA) Friday disclaimed any in-

volvement in the attacks on

any of the Frenchmen's killings in

east Beirut," said an ASALA

statement distributed by hand to

Western news agency offices in

mainly Muslim west Beirut. "Our

struggle remains focused against

ASALA is one of several

underground Armenian factions

fighting for an independent

Armenian homeland in eastern

Turkey. It had claimed carrying

out several terrorist attacks

against Turkish targets in the Middle East, Europe and the

The Armenian group said the denial was necessary because a Lebanese Christian faction called

the May 9 Movement had recent-

ly released a statement accusing

ASALA of killing the

The May 9 Movement has not

made itself known in Lebanon

Tyre area for nearly a year, were bundled in a car and taken to the

Palestinian camp of Ain Al Hil-weh at the edge of Sidon. The FRC issued a statement in

Sidon and Beirut denying any involvement in the double abduc-

tion and added; "When we want

to kidnap someone, we do it

FRC had an argument recently with UNRWA officials in the

south over the distribution of

Stening and Joergensen, who

are both married, are among 14

foreigners working for UNRWA in Lebanon. The remaining 12,

include Australians, Scandina-

vians, Irish, Japanese and Yugos-

the number of foreigners miss

Lebanon.

Their abduction brought to 27

and believed kidnapped in

In Washington, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has extended a ban on the use of U.S.

passports for travel to Lebanon.

saying the situation there remains

too dangerous for Americans, the

State Department said Friday.

tricted the use of U.S. passports for travel to Lebanon in January

The State Department first res-

Unconfirmed reports said the

openly and declare our role."

Turkey's fascist regime.'

United States.

"We had nothing to do with

Frenchmen in east Beirut.

They said an investigation was under way to determine whether the bomb was related to a chain of attacks against Frenchmen in the Christian sector of the Lebanese capital.

The last previous such attack came Tuesday, when gunmen shot and killed Frenchman Jacques Meurant with silencerequipped automatic pistols as he drove his car in east Beirut's

Ashrafiyeh district. No group claimed responsibility for the assassination, which occurred two blocks from Lebanon's General Security Head-

Police said Meurant carried a Lebanese residence permit issued in October that listed his occupation as salesman. But the French news agency Agence France-Presse quoted well informed sources in Paris as saying Meurant worked for the French

secret service. Meurant was the fifth Frenchmen killed in Christian-controlled areas in 16 months.

French engineer Richard Gimpel, 46, was shot and seriously wounded on Nov. 11 as he drove his car on the highway linking Beirut and the Falangist port of

He died in hospital 13 days

Two gunmen in a speeding car

months ago."
Six Palestinian employees were

dismissed after Stening turned in his report to the UNRWA head-

quarters in Beirut, the official

ployees apparently had connec-

tions with a local commander in a

Palestinian group, and he carried out the abduction to avenge the dismissals," the official added.

have promised to deal quickly

with the situation and ensure the

safe release of the two Scandina-

vians soon. U.N. officials in

Lebanon are optimistic," the offi-

UNRWA's foreign officials de-

clined to comment on the Arab's

version, but also said they were

hopeful that the two would be

Members of the Sunni Muslim

Popular Liberation Army (PLA)

which controls Sidon, mounted a

Militia sources in Beirut told

Reuters the kidnappers were Palestinians who could be loyal to

Abu Nidal's Fatch Revolutionary

Council (FRC) or to Muslim fun-

The two men, who had super-

search for the two men but found

militia, led by Mustafa Saad

released soon.

no trace of them.

damentalists.

"Senior guerrilla leaderships

"Some of the sacked em-

UNRWA expects release of kidnapped aides

Naji Al Ali awarded Press Freedom

Prize

PARIS (AP) — The International Federation of Newspaper Pubguards with automatic gunfire as they shopped in east Beirut's lishers (FIEJ) awarded its annual Dora district on Oct. 29. Lt. Press Freedom Prize Monday to Christian Mondon and Warrant Naji Al Ali, the Palestinian car-Officer Andre Cruz were killed toonist shot to death last year in while Pvt. Miguel Collignon was London.

The 1988 FIEJ Golden Pen of Freedom is the first in 27 years to be given either to an Arab or to a cartoonist and is only the second awarded posthumously.

Ali was 49 when he was killed by unidentified gunmen last July in London, where he had been living in exile. FIEJ said that while no group claimed responsibility and the killer has never been identified, the murder was widely seen as an act of revenge by one of the Middle Eastern

groups he satirised. "It is a major function of the free press to comment upon and criticise the actions and policies of governments," FIEJ said in awarding the prize. "This has been achieved in a most notable form by cartoonists as well as by

writers. The Paris-based publishers organisation said Al Ali used his drawings to attack tyranny wherever he saw it in the Middle

"His cartoons were so sharp that he offended every government in the region. His opposition to intolerance resulted in the censorship of his work and banishment. But his work also attracted a wide following among those promoting compromise and understanding between govern-

ments and peoples.
"By awarding the Golden Pento Naji Al Ali, FIEJ also wishes to recognise those other Arab journalists forced to live in exile because the only side they agree to take in a region crippled by its divisions is that of integrity and

truth." Al Ali left Palestine during the 1948 exodus and spent the rest of his youth in a refugee camp in southern Lebanon. Working at different times both in Beirut and Kuwait, his drawings appeared in magazines and newspapers throughout the Middle East. Frequently detained by police

and frequently censored, Ali finally was expelled from Kuwait in 1985.

Bahraini crown prince in Egypt

CAIRO (R) - Bahrain's Crown Prince Sheikh Hamad Ibn Isa Al Khalifa arrived in Egypt Saturday for talks on Middle East issues and bilateral cooperation.

Sheikh Hamad, who is also defence minister, was greeted at the airport by Prime Minister Atef Sedki, with whom he was due to hold talks later. The prince, on a three-day visit, will meet Defence Minister

Field-Marshal Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala Sunday and President Hosni Mubarak Monday. Sheikh Hamad told reporters

the ruling Baath Party newspaper he hoped his talks would help Al Thawra. "forge a unified stand to achieve Iraq sent helicopter gunships the goals of the Arab nation." and other military hardware to

Meese urged to delay closure of PLO's U.N. office

NEW YORK (Agencies) — The State Department's legal adviser is pressing Attorney General Edwin Meese to delay application of a law closing the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) observer mission at the United Nations, according to American diplomats and United Nations officials, the New York Times has

In a letter sent to Attorney General Meese Wednesday, these officials say, the adviser, Abraham Sofaer, said that closing the PLO mission would be perceived by the rest of the world as a violation of international law that could undermine new United States efforts to promote a Middle East peace settlement and damage America's standing throughout the world. If the closure move is not turned back, Arab nations hope to reconvene the General Assembly in the next few weeks to consider the issue. the Times said.

Against strong opposition from the Reagan administration, Congress voted last year to close both the PLO information office in Washington and the observer mission at the United Nations. The PLO measure was attached to the two-year, \$8.3 billion State Department spending bill, which President Reagan signed although he found some provisions objectionable.

The legislation does not ban PLO representatives from entering the United States, but it makes it difficult for them to function by denying them the right to maintain offices and by banning Americans from accepting payment from them.

The State Department has asked the Attorney General to agree to arbitration in the dispute, using the settlement mechanism in the 1947 agreement by which the United Nations established its headquarters in New York, the Times said. Under the settlement mechan-

ism, the closing of the PLO observer mission, which is scheduled to take place March 21, would automatically be delayed until the World Court gave its opinion on the legality of the American move, and until a three-member tribunal, named specially to judge the issue, handed down a final, binding decision based on the court's ruling.

According to some people familiar with the contents of the letter to Mr. Meese, Mr. Safaer tried to get Secretary of State

George Shultz to sign it, but failed because Mr. Shultz is trying to distance himself from the dispute. Mr. Sofaer's strong stand is not shared by some other ranking State Department officials, administration officials told the Times.

A U.N. spokesman said Friday no dispute has yet arisen between the United Nations and the United States over moves to close the PLO mission.

"We are in the consultation stage with the United States. We have not been informed of a position by the U.S. government that would bring us to the point of having a dispute with the United States," the spokesman added. He was answering questions

about the published report that the U.S. State Department's legal adviser had urged the U.S. attorney general to delay enforcing the new congressional legislation to close the PLO's U.N. office.

Asked about prospects for a Geneva session, the U.N. spokesman said: "I don't think we should even speculate about such a possibility, given the stage at which things are right now."

The headquarters agreement

calls for disputes to be resolved by a panel of three arbiters - one chosen by the U.N. secretary

general, one by the U.S. Secretary of State, and one chosen jointly by the Secretary General and Secretary of State, or, if they cannot agree, by the president of the World court at The Hague.

The secretary general of the United States may ask the General Assembly to ask the World Court to give an advisory opinion

on any legal questions. State Department Spokes-woman Phylis Oakley said Friday the department is in the process of conveying "our position to the attorney general" concerning the future of the PLO's observer mission to the United

"The attorney general will now determine what is required, both domestically and in our relations with the United Nations, in regards to the mission under the recent legislation (passed by the U.S. Congress) dealing with PLO offices in the United States," Oakley said.

"No final decisions are being made," the State Department deputy spokeswoman emphasised. "We've given our recommendations; it's up to the attorney general, and we expect his decision to be announced very soon.

China calls

cooperation

PEKING (R) — A senior . Chinese leader Saturday told a

visiting Iranian delegation Peking

hoped to "strengthen its co-op-eration with Iran in all fields."

the official New China News

Agency reported.
Chinese Vice-President

Ulanhu said at a formal meeting

with the group from Iran's Isla-mic Consultative Assembly that

"a long-term steady and friendly relationship will be beneficial to

the people of our two countries."

The agency gave no further details of meetings with the de-legation, which arrived Thursday

for a one-week "goodwill" visit led by the assembly's Deputy

Speaker Hojatoleslam Moham-

The U.S. has protested against

China's alleged supplies of Silk-

worm missiles to Iran for use in

for more

with Iran

Iraq denies seeking pipeline guarantees

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq denied Saturday that it sought any guarantees for the security of a proposed oil pipeline that is at the center of a new controversy surrounding U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese.

The denial, contained in a statement by Foreign Ministry Undersecretary Nizar Hamdoun, was the first publicly released Iraqi reaction to the latest allegations about Meese.

It had originally been telexed earlier in the week to the New York Times' office in Athens as the result of a query from the Times, and was released here at the request of the Associated

Meese is the top U.S. law enforcement official and a close friend of President Ronald

The projected pipeline, to run from Iraq to the Port of Aqaba, was mooted in the early 1980s as an alternative to Iraq's waraffected Gulf sea lanes.

A close friend of Meese's, attorney E. Robert Wallach, had a financial interest in the project and sent Meese a memo citing a plan to pay off a top Israeli official in return for a guarantee that Israel would not destroy the

military aid to Sudan to help the

government fight secessionists in the south of the country, a senior

Sudanese official said in remarks

the Sudanese army to liberate Karmak and Kizan towns from

the insurgents (in the south),

Pacifico Lolik, a member of

Sudan's Supreme Council, told

"The Iraqi military aid helped

published Saturday.

pipeline, sources close to the investigation have confirmed. In a two-paragraph statement, Hamdoun said:

"Iraq and Jordan were involved in commercial discussion with Bechtel (the big U.S. contractor) in 1984 with its proposal to build a pipeline to Aqaba. The company could not meet our security and financial require-

"Therefore, discussions were discontinued sometime in late 1984. Iraq has never asked for any political guarantees from any party for the security of the proposed project."

The Los Angeles Times has reported that Wallach was promoting the project on behalf of Iraq. There have been no reports that Iraq itself directly sought any security guarantees. Meese has confirmed that the

memo was provided to him, but has said he does not recall having read that passage in the document and has denied any wrong-

There have been reports that Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres was targeted to be bribed. Peres has said no such approach was made to him. In the United States, the 1977

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq has sent Sudan last year, diplomats said. ported Saturday that Ethiopian

to give the south more autonomy

Saddam Hussein and other offi-

cials on the Iran-Iraq war and

Ethiopian jets attack Sudanese

village

Two Khartoum newspapers re-

Rebeis of the Sudan People's MiGs attacked a Sudanese border

Liberation Army (SPLA) have village Thursday, killing two peo-

Lolik arrived in Baghdad Sun-day and had talks with President located near Kassala town in east-

fought troops since 1983 in a bid ple and wounding nine.

Baghdad sends military aid to Sudan

over its affairs.

bilateral issues.

Foreign Corrupt Practices Act generally forbids companies and individuals from making payments to foreign government officials to secure help in obtaining or retaining business.

The pipeline project never came to fruition.

Meanwhile Swiss oilman Bruce Rappaport denied Friday any wrongdoing in a billion-dollar

Iraqi pipeline plan.
A statement from the offices of Rappaport's Inter Maritime

"Bruce Rappaport, a Swiss businessman mentioned in recent media reports regarding the proposed Iraq-Aqaba pipeline, today disclaimed any knowledge of/or participation in any unlawful or improper activity regarding the ipeline project.' The statement added: "Mr.

Rappaport felt compelled to make this statement because of false or otherwise misleading statements appearing in various publications suggesting that he had been instrumental in arranging payments to be made to one or more Israeli government offi-cials or political parties in ex-change for official Israeli government support of the project."

Al Soudani and Al Raya said

the raid, by swing-wing MiG-23s,

ern Sudan, fleeing to nearby hills.

There was no immediate con-

Relations between Sudan and

Ethiopia have been tense for

firmation of the reports available

in Khartoum.

Blood Bank

HOSPITALS

Army, Marka 89101 0 Queen Alia Hospital 602240730

Malhas, J. Amman
Palestine, Shmeisani
Shmeisani Hospital
University Hospital
Al-Muasher Hospital
The Islamic, Abdali
Al-Ahli, Abdali
Iralian, Al-Muhajreen
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafjeh
Army, Marka

the Gulf war, and slowed the expansion of high-technology trade to Peking in retaliation. Western officials have also alleged that China supplied large quantities of arms to Iraq in the

mad Yazdi.

India, UAE call for Gulf peace India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Saturday called for the U.N. Security Council

early stages of the eight-year-old

order for a ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war to be implemented. The UAE News Agency WAM said both countries also called for efforts to find a Middle East peace settlement that guaranteed

. 642311

macies in Tyre and Sidon two vised UNRWA operations in the

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19 PROGRAMME ONE Programme Review Cartours
Dennis the Menace Children's programmes 17:20Local programme 17:15 19:10 .. Local agricultural programm Programme review
News in Arabic Arabic series
Programme on Arabic
T.V. Magazine (local) 23:10 Close down

PROGRAMME TWO

L'Ecole des Fans
News in French International Circus Festival Varieties News in Arabic 20:30 Farrington of the F.O. 21:10 Australia (documentary) — Part 2 22:00 News in English

Rue Carno

RADIO JORDAN 865 KHz, AM & 90 MHz FM

	partiy on 9900 KHz, SW
	Tel: 774111-19
07:00	Light Musi
07:30	Newsdes
08:00	Morning Show
10:00	News Summar
11:05	in Conce
12:00	News Summar
12:05	Pop Tal
13:00	News Summar
13:85	Pop Session conte
34:00	News Bulleti
14:10	
	Science Repor
15:00	
16:00	
16:30	Old Favourite
	Listeners' Choice
18:00	News Summar
	Rhythm and Blue
19:00	Newsdes
	Date with a Sta
20:00	
	News Summar
21:05	Evening Show continue
	News Summar
22:00	Evening Show continue

News Summan

TV & RADIO BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1323 KHz

06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 Capriccio 06:45 Reflections 06:50 Financial Review 07:00 World News 07:09 Twenty-Fours Hours: News Summary 07:30 Stuart Colman's Record Hop 07:45 Letter from America 08:00 Newsdesk 08:30 Jazz for the Asking 09:00 World News 09:09 24 Hours: News Summary 09:30 19909 24 HOUR; NewS Summary 99-30 From Our Own Correspondent 99-45 Book Choice 09:50 Waveguide 10:00 World News 10:00 World NewS 10:00 World NewS 11:00 The Sunday Papers 11:15 Science in Action 11:45 A Hobby — or a Way of Life? 12:00 NewS Summary; Short Street 12:15 Chesical Record Parism Story 12:15 Classical Record Review 12-30 Religious Service 13:00 World News 13:09 News About Britain 13:15 From Our Own Correspondent 13:30 Musical Masters of the Baroque 14:00 News Summary: Play of the Week: My Wife 15:00 World News 15:09 Twenty-Sports Roundup 15:45 The Sandi Jones Request Show 16:10 Back to Square One 17:00 Radio Newsreel 17:15 Inter-national Recital 18:00 World News 18:09 Commentary 18:15 Faustus: Desire and the Devil 18:45 Letter from America 19:00 World News 19:69 Reflections 19:15 Jazz for the Asking 19:45 Sports Roundup 20:00 Newsdesk 20:30 Just A Minute 21:00 News Sum-20:30 Just A Shight 21:30 New Sum-mary: Classical Record Review 21:15Feature/Drama 12:00 World News 22:09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 22:30 Sunday Half Hour Summary 22:30 Sungay rian rious 23:00 News Summary; Short Story 23:15 Pleasures Yours 24:00 World News 00:09 I've Been Together Now for 70 Years 00:25 Book Choice 00:30 Financial Review 00:40 Reflections 00:45 Sports Roundup 01:00 World News 01:09 Commentary 01:15 Letter

from America 01:30 Australia 200 Years On **VOICE OF AMERICA** MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9865, 1174,

11925 and 15210 Hz 96:90 News 66:10 VOA Morning 97:00 News 07:10 VOA Morning 08:80 News 08:10 VOA Morning 17:00 News 17:10 New Horizons 17:30 Studio One 18:00 News 18:10 Encounter 18:30 Special English News & Features 19:00 News 19:10 Critic's Choice 19:30 Issues in the News 20:00 News 20:10 Encounter 20:30 Special English News & Features 21:30 News 21:10 Sunday Report 21:30 Music, USA Standards 22:30 News 22:10 The Concert Hall 22:55 Editorial 23:00 News 23:10 New Horizons 23:30 WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

FOLK DANCE

☆ Performances of Romanian folk dance daily at 9:00 p.m. at Alia Gate-way Hotel (until Feb. 10).

AMERICAN FILM FESTIVAL

* "Children of a Lesser God" (1986) at 8:00 p.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre as part of the American film festival (until Feb. 7). **CULTURAL CENTRES**

Royal Cultural Centre .. Tel. 061026/7 American Centre
American Centre Library
British Council
French Cultural Centre 644371 641520 Goethe Institute Soviet Cultural Centre Spanish Cultural Centre Turkish Cultural Centre Haya Arts Centre Hussein Youth City 667181/6 Y. W.M. A. 664251 Amman Municipal Library 637111 Univ. of Jordan Library 843555

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Masseum." Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday. Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th

uries). The Roman Theatre, Amremnines). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m.-5 p.m.
Year-round. Tel. 651760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m.-5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.).
Closed Tuesdays. Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramies, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim coun-

tries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Munta-

zah, Jabal Luweibdeh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.00 p.m.-6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128. 630128.
Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilis dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9.00 a.m. 4.00 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.

SERVICE CLUBS

The Amman Lious Club, Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Regency Palace hotel, 7:30 p.m. Lious Philadelphia Club, Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Ammon Hotel, 7:30 p.m. Philadelphia Rotary Club, Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.

Rotary Clab. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2.00 p.m. Royal Automobile Club. Jabal Am-man. Eighth Circle. Tel. 816534, 817534.

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 624590. Church of the Ammanciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luweibdeh, Tel. 637440.

CHURCHES

De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, Tel. 661757. Jahal Hussein, Tel. 661757.
Terrasun'a Charch (Roman Catholic),
Jahal Luweibdeh, mass in Italian innguage, meet every Saturday at 5:30
p.m. Tel: 622366
Charch of the Annunciation (Greek
Orbidox) Abdali, Tel. 623541.
Auglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, Tel. 625383,
chaplain's residence tel. 601359.
Araenian Catholic Church Ashrafich,
Tel. 771331.

Tel. 77(33).

Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh. Tel. 775261.

St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, Tel. 77(75).

Arman International Church (Interdenominational): meets at Somhern
Baptist School in Shmeisani, Tel.
67(5)34

67/334. Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church of the Good Shepherd) Amman, Ara-bic Service: Sunday 7 p.m. Rev. N. Smir 811295) Rainbow Congregation (meets at the Good Shepherd's Church) glish Service; Saturday 6:30 p.m. tel. 822605, Rev. Veli. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormon) Tel. 815-817, 821-264.

OUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information depart-ment at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (16) \$2200-5, where it should always be verified.

ROYAL JORDANIAN (RJ) FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

...... Aqaba (RJ Kuwait (RJ Jeddah (RJ 09:40 09:55 10:60 16:45 17:00 Doha, Bahrain (RJ Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ 17:50 18:00 18:05 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna ... Brussels, Geneva (RJ) Madrid, Rome (RJ) ... Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ) Baghdad (RJ) 18:30 19:30

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

...... Cairo (MS) .. Damascus (AZ) 09:35 11:20 Kuwait (LN)
. Sharja, Doha (GF)
...... Jeddah (SV)
...... Kuwait (KU) 11:45 12:45 12:55 13:40 ... Baghdad (IA ... Athens (OA Beirut (ME Frankfurt (LH Cairo (MS) 16:35 19:15 21:**6**5 **00:**25 London, Cairo (BA)

DEPARTURES ROYAL JORDANIAN (RJ)

Vienna, New York (RJ)
Tunis, Casablanca (RJ) .. Cairo (RI 19:35 19:40 19:45 Dubai, Muscat (R 19:50 19:55 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (RJ Baghdad (RJ) Lamaca (RJ) Jeddah, Sana'a (RJ 20:15 Cairo (R.

FOR THE TRAVELLER OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

. Damascus, Paris (AF) Cairo (MS) Berlin (IF) Rome (AZ) Tripoli (LN) Sharja (GF) Jeddah (SV) 12:10 Kuwait (KU) Baghdad (IA) Athens (OA)

MONEY EXCHANGE

Saturday rates Local sell/buy rates in fils ranc 94.8/96.3 ilder 176.6/179.4 anc 58.8/59.7 a 27/27.4
 Swiss franc
 241.4/2
 246.3

 U.K. sterling pound
 591.2/602.1

 U.S. dollar
 337.8/342.9
 W. German mark 198.1/ 201.7

PRAYER TIMES

Fajr (Suarisc) Duha Dhuhr 'Asr 11:50 14:59 17:17 . Maghreb

WEATHER Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be partly cloudy with slight rain. Slight rise in temperature will occur. The wind will be northwesterly. In Aqaba, it will be partly cloudy, northerly wind and calm sea. Agaba

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 10, Aqaba 18. Humidity readings: Amman 87 per cent. Aqaba 45 per years with each accusing the inalienable Palestinian rights. other of supporting rebels.

SEFUL	TELE	PHONE	NOS.
EMERGENCIES		GENE	RAL

Jordan Television . Amman governorate ... Amman Civil Defence . Radio Jordan Ministry of Tourism Civil Defence Irbid 271293, 273131 Civil Defence Quweismeh 770733 Civil Defence Deir Alla 57306

Hotel complaints
Price complaints
Telephone Information 193, 775111 Jordan and Middle East calls Overseas calls 778303 661111 Blood Bank 778303

Givil Defence rescue 661111

Fire headquarters 622090-3

Police rescue 192, 621111, 637777

Police headquarters 639141

Traffic police 896390/1

Electric Power Co. 636381/4, 624881

Municipal water complaints 771125/8

Queen Alia Intl. Airport (08)53330/60

Repair service **NIGHT DUTY** AMMAN:

Dr. Nabil Maridi Dr. Yahia Abdul Rahim Dr. Ahmad Othman

78638 Dr. Mahmoud Awad Firas pharmacy
Ferdows pharmacy
Al Asema pharmacy
Nairoukh pharmacy
Al Salam pharmacy 661912 778336 637055 623672 636730 **Уасоцо** ра TAXIS: 644585

Palestine tani Shmeisani tani áchyar taxi . 644574 Khayyam taxi Jordan taxi 623050 Asem texi IRBID: 273925 275825

Dr. Nash'at Ammari Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

MARKET PRICES

845845/65

667227/5

666127/37 . 664164/6 . 777101/3

r price in fils per kg. 420 / 360 470 / 400 ... 130 / 90 Apple (French) Apple (green) ... Lemon ... Mandann 140 / 100 220 / 180
 Marrow
 220 / 180

 Onion (green)
 150 / 100

 Onion (dry)
 220 / 180

 Oranges (Abu surra)
 320 / 280

 Cranges (Shammoni)
 250 / 200

 Pepper (hot)
 360 / 300

 Pepper (sweet)
 220 / 180

 Potato
 150 / 100

 Raddish
 100 / 70
 Banana (Mukammar) 350 / 300 Banana (Mukammar) 300 / 240 450 / 400 600 / 500 140 / 100 Beans (broad) Carrot (black) ... Carrot (yellow) Cauliflower Cucumbers 240 / 200 240 / 200 140 / 100 220 / 160 100 / 70 160 / 120 110 / 80 160 / 120 Dates (box) Eggplant (large) Garlic 1000 / 800 ... 100 / 60 ... 250 / 200

Zarqa nursing college project launched today

By Sana Atiyeh Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh today lays the foundation stone for the nursing college and paramedical institute project in Zarqa, a Health Minis-

try source said Saturday.
The college, which would and 25 legal midwives per year, is expected to be completed by the end of next year, according to the source. The institute is also expected to graduate 100 para-

The project is being built on 10,000 square metres at a cost of JD 980,000, the source told the Jordan Times.

Currently, the ministry rents the small building for the nursing college in Zarqa, which graduates only three nurses and nine midwives a year. Since Jordan suffers graduate 100 registered nurses from a shortage of registered nurses, midwives and paramedics, the new college is being established in an effort to encourage young Jordanians to join these professions, the source

lowing the announcement of the results that his success in the

election reflected a general recog-

nition of his past efforts and

diligent work in serving the elec-

chairman of the new board, as he

won the largest number of votes

in the election held Thursday.

The counting of votes continued

until early Friday and the results

Qarden is expected to be made

tricity workers.

Electricity workers elect new federation board

AMMAN (J.T.) - The General directors, said in a statement fol-Federation of Electricity Workers has elected nine members to serve on its new board for the

next four years. The nine are: Samir Qarden, who won 1178 votes, Hatmal Akaileh (846), Issa Jariri (809), Mohammad Faouri (769), Fleih Daboubi (765), Mousa Saoud (740) Said Hussein Zakha (727), Hassan Ali Hussein (660), and Hassan Ali Hussein (669), and Abdul Wadud Rabah (638).

Samir Qarden, who served as were not disclosed until Friday chairman of the previous board of morning.

peration

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200

 $\mathbb{R}^{n\times n}$

JMI, JUST review prospects for cooperation

IRBID (Petra) - Director-General of the Jordanian Medical Institution (JMI) Dr. Daoud Hanama Saturday visited the Jor-dan University of Sciences dan University of Science and Technology (JUST) in Irbid and met with President Dr. Kamel

Ailouni briefed Hanania on the

mes and medical faculty plans. Hanania, who is also director of the Royal Medical Services, discussed with Ajlouni cooperation between JUST and the JMI. and later inspected recently-built infrastructure of the King Abdullah Hospital which will serve as a training hospital for JUST medic-



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Saturday addresses an Arab Thought Forum session on the

crisis (Photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

Mayors, municipal council heads urged to address public demands AMMAN (Petra) - Minister of which tends to complicate work sources of information for further

Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Yousef Hamdan Al Jaber Saturday urged heads of municipal councils to interact with their local communities with the purpose of identifying the public's demands, problems and proposals, in order to pave the way for improving public and municipal services.

Addressing 39 heads of municipal councils and mayors gathered at a seminar on higher administration in municipal affairs, the minister said that the mayor should be regarded as the first person responsible for the town, and that the mayor should work towards upgrading services and benefitting from scientific and technological development. The mayor's work should focus

on promoting municipal services, meeting the growing demands of a rapidly increasing population and the changes in the social structure, Jaber noted.

He said that many municipalities still suffer from negative atti-

which tends to complicate work and retard development. Some mayors do not abide by the promises and pledges made to their townspeople before elections. and some tend to carry out projects in one area and neglect

building, and should deal with the public accordingly. He urged mayors and heads of councils to give proper attention to organisational matters while

implementing public service pro-

others, the minister explained.

The municipality, he said, is a

social institution and not a mere

jects in their regions. In addition, Jaber said that these administrators should try to stimulate social and cultural life through establishing public libraries and initiating other activities. He said that Jordanian municipalities ought to prepare themselves for the advent of the 21st century by preparing studies and plans for improving social, cultural, economic and administrative functions, and through establishing data

sources of information for further

Dean of the Yarmouk University Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences Dr. Abdul Bari Al Durra also addressed the meeting, underlining the need to coordinate the efforts of all concerned parties in implementing service projects.

Durra was representing Yar-

mouk University President Dr. Mohammad Hamdan. The university helped organise the sixday seminar.

The participants will discuss the implementation of develop ment projects, mayoral skills. project planning, employing technology and enlisting the help of specialists in managing municipal affairs, handling financial resources, city and village organisa-

The mayors and heads of councils will be taken to Yarmouk University on the last day of the seminar for a final session and a tour of municipal councils in Irbid

Prince Hassan urges Arab assistance to Lebanon in efforts to overcome crisis

He told the forum that Arabs

action, and extend a hand to help

Lebanon surpass its crisis, end its

the social and economic dimen-

sions of the Lebanese crisis dis-

Crown Prince comments

on working papers

Prince said, presented three diffe-

rent conceptions of Lebanon's

future: further deterioration in

Participants in the session on

civil war and restore peace.

on Lebanese people.

problems.

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Decisionmakers in the Arab World have many lessons to learn from the Lebanese problem, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan told a session of the Arab Thought Forum Saturday.

Addressing a session on the of Arab societies, firmly rejecting Lebanese war in a speech read on all forms of factional and relihis behalf by Mr. Akram Zu'ai- gious discrimination. ter, the Crown Prince stressed that there was a need to "under-should benefit from the harmostand the socioeconomic ele- nious atmosphere created in the ments that could contribute to wake of the Amman Arab sum-solving the crisis." He pointed to mit to push forward joint Arab the difficult economic and living conditions suffered by the Lebanese for the past three years.

"There is a lesson we. Arabs, must learn from the Lebanese war, related to the duty of the state towards the society." Prince Hassan said.

"If we all agreed that the state is a comprehensive legitimate authority whose mission is to control social interactions as a prerequisite for peace, then we should think deeply about the nature of the ideal state if we want to develop the society," he continued.

The Crown Prince said that "a state which the society seeks to destroy is unfeasible, as the state loses its raison d'etre and becomes vulnerable to outside interven-

Prince Hassan said that intellectuals should be seeking "a contract between the state and the society, and a creative ba-lance in which the state serves as a fence around the society means of control and a tool of development.

The Arab Thought Forum, he said, seeks to strengthen the ties pluralistic rebellion that would cancel the other two scenarios.

But on the whole. Prince Hassan said, one could detect positive elements in the attempts in these papers to tackle the crisis in Lebanon. "Positive factors in the papers are, in fact, in greater number than in those papers that tackled Jordan's social and economic crises in 1971," he said. Despite difficulties, the Kingdom was then able to raise \$600 million in loans and grants to invest in development projects. Prince Hassan added.

The Crown Prince echoed a call by acting Lebanese Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss for the attainment of at least a minimum level of consensus among Lebanese groups on a formula for

cussed many aspects of the resolving their problem. Lebanese problem, including de-Prince Hassan expressed hope mographic changes and the that, in the next three months, psychological effects of the war the Lebanese people and the different parties and factions would arrive at such consensus to

deal with their battered economy. The Crown Prince then refer-Prince Hassan, who arrived at red to the economic situation in the session later, commented on the Southeast Asia region which the working papers presented to includes Lebanon and Jordan. the meeting, and paid tribute to among other Arab countries, and the Lebanese people for their serious attempts to deal with their praised the important bilateral agreements concluded between Arab countries and the European One of the papers on the Lebanese situation, the Crown Community.

He said that these agreements. coupled with the participation of Japan in the region's development, clearly represented part of the situation, agreement among an overall international coopera-the factions and parties on a

GUVS council stresses aid to W. Bank, Gaza

AMMAN (Petra) - General Un- Palestinian uprising in the occuion of Voluntary Societies pied territories, and said that the (GUVS) President Abdullah Al union had been combating pover-Khatib Saturday said that the financial aid which the union provided to charitable societies in the Kingdom in 1987 reached JD 1,032,000. He said that nearly JD 30,000 from this total was given to charitable societies in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip to support the steadfastness of Palestinians.

Khatib was speaking at a meeting of the GUVS executive council held Saturday under the chairmanship of Minister of Labour and Social Development Rashid Ureikat.

Ureikat noted that the ministry was considering creating a higher council for social development to organise the work of charitable societies and social organisations.

The Kingdom's general mufti, Sheikh Izzuddin Al Khatib Al Tamimi, who is also the chairman of the piaster-a-day charity scheme, said that 190 students from the East and the West banks benefitted from the JD 106,000 in financial aid distributed through

NEWS IN BRIEF

Obeidi returns from Tunis meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Secretary-General of the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) Mahdi Al Obeidi Friday returned from Tunisia where he took part in the meeting of the Arab Economic and Social Council. Obeidi said that the meeting discussed the financial situations of Arab League organisations. Obeidi expressed his hope that member states would pay their contributions due to these organisations, in order to enable them implement their

Teacher training course opens today

AMMAN (Petra) — The Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund (QAJSWF) opens a course here today for training kindergarten teachers. The course will focus in particular on training the 15 participants teaching methods for kindergartens in rural regions.

Meeting to address technical education

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab Technical Education Federation Council will open a two week meeting in Amman Sunday to discuss a number of studies on planning technical education programmes in the Arab World. The meeting, to be opened by Minister of Higher Education Nasereddin Al Assad, will also hold a workshop on teaching methods, planning tests and the use of computers in teaching.



CHILDREN'S **DRAWING** COMPETITION



The Public Energy and Electricity Services Office in Irbid plans to launch a children's drawing competition on subjects pertaining to energy saving and energy rationing.

Conditions:

Participants should not be above 13 years of age.

Drawings should be 35 x 28 cm.

 Names and addresses of competitors should appear clearly on the backs of their drawings. - Drawings should be submitted to the Irbid office

societies by Feb. 28, 1988.

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university's educational program- al students. banks on services that can be tudes among administrators, Arab Wings on call to serve time-conscious Mideast travellers

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Royal Jordanian subsidiary Arab Wings, which provides executive jet charter services, in a little more than a decade has established itself as a self-sufficient company pioneering in moving time-con-scious people around the Middle

In its 12 years of operation, Amman-based Arab Wings has also become a major regional service and maintenance centre sidering introducing a domestic helicopter service. With a fleet of 3 Saberliners (75

A), Arab Wings has more than just "plain" charters to offer. It flies time-conscious executives and dignitaries to their destinations, offering a wide-range of services including executive services, handling and maintenance. When Arab Wings (AW) was

established in 1975, "the idea was for a charter to serve businesspeople and government officials to move in the area," according to AW Managing Director Sharif Ghazi Rakan. There was a vacuum which needed some thing like Arab

Wings to fill it."

AW flies to wherever its customers wish to go; it has no specific flight routes. But with Amman as its base, and two other sub-bases in Dubai and Bahrain, most of AW's activity centres around the Middle East, particu-

larly the Gulf region. The advantages of AW over regular airlines is that when travelling with a regular airline, "a passenger is tied to the set schedule," Sharif Ghazi said, noting that "with our airplanes, it is the reverse: the plane is there for you, and whenever you decide to leave, the plane is ready for your service, just like a limousine."

The company was named "Arab Wings" because the original idea was for all Arab states to be partners in it. Though all

states showed interest, only Oman took a share. AW is now co-owned by Royal Jordanian (RJ) and the Sultanate of Oman (76 and 24 per cent, respectively). and is managed entirely by Jorda

AW's clients are mainly executives, businesspeople, govern-ment officials and dignitaries. But on a number of occasions AW aircraft have been chartered by major news agencies covering time-sensitive events in the area. such as the Iranian Revolution

and the Lebanese civil war. cial conditions by which AW must abide. Rather, there are "open skies" arrangements with almost all destination countries, which means that overflying and landing rights are obtained annually. According to As'ad Nimry at the Ground Operations Department, only notification procedures are required and are usually made just prior to the

aircraft's departure. This enables AW to respond efficiently to client requests, in one or two hours provided an aircraft is available. If no aircraft is available, Nimry told the Jordan Times, AW can arrange for a client to depart as soon it charters an aircraft from another com-

AW's charges depend on the duration of the flight, but usually fall at \$1,650 per hour. "This is a price which we found to be reasonable and acceptable to people," according to Sharif Ghazi, who has been managing director of AW for seven years.

These hourly rates cover the time it takes the aircraft to go from base to base. But since there are two other regional sub-bases in the fare for the customer travelling within the Middle East is lower. If a passenger wishes to travel from Amman to Dhahran, for example, AW would charge for a trip calculated as Amman-Dhahran-Bahrain, rather than Amman-Dhahran-Amman.

Therefore, these two sub-bases

enable us to respond faster to in most cases, charter companies clients, and to try to give them the advantage of a cheaper rate,' Sharif Ghazi told the Jordan

A one-way flight from Amman to Aqaba, for example, would cost \$2,475, while a Amman-Aqaba-Amman trip made on the same day would cost \$3,095. Aircraft can also be chartered on a daily basis for \$4,950, a price which includes two and a half hours of flight per day. Each additional flying hour costs an extra \$1,650, and each overnight

There are basically no conditions for customers to charter an AW aircraft, provided they can afford to pay the bill, that is. But to be sure, for those who can, the quoted prices include a number of services such as in-flight calls to any country and hot meals and beverages served by a hostess. On ground, AW can arrange for executive services such as hotel reservations, appointments and limousine service. "We try to think ahead and make it as convenient and comfortable as we can

for the passenger," Sharif Ghazi The qualifications of AW pilots are no different from those of RJ pilots. The minimum requirement is 4,000 flying hours for a captain and 1.000 hours for a first officer, according to Sharif Ghazi. The pilots usually attend initial courses in the United States to train on Saberliner aircraft. After that, the first officers attend a two-week refresher course every six months, while the captains attend the same course every 12 months. At present, all four AW captains are foreign; the chief

pilot, Pakistani; while the four first officers are Jordanians. In 1987, AW registered 1,003 flying hours, only 97 hours short of its target. Two-hundred-and-thirty-two flights carried a total of 1,091 passengers. Income from flight operations alone was 1,685,000. As of Jan. 23 of this year, AW had made 20 flights carrying 38 passengers. For 1988, AW plans to carry on

with the same target of 1,100 flying hours. "This is the maximum we can get out of the present market and situation. We have to work hard to achieve the 1987 target," Sharif Ghazi said.

AW follows the "direct approach" to marketing. "We try

to go to certain countries and make contacts with people and customers," Sharif Ghazi said. He explained that because it is a specific target market that AW has in mind, and a specific kind of service that it offers, this direct approach usually works better than commercial advertising.

As for competition, only one other charter company (Egyptian) operates in the area with its base in the Middle East. According to Sharif Ghazi, another charter company (Kuwait Air Taxi) began operating in the region four years ago, but has since closed down. However, "they do not compete with us, and we are not really affected by them," Sharif Ghazi said. He added that

tend to quote prices that do not include the extra services that AW offers.

AW and RJ cooperate in many fields. Every RJ office abroad is considered an AW office, as well. RI assists AW in obtaining clearance for flights and by receiving reservations for AW through its various offices. AW's foreign clients are encouraged to come from Europe on RJ, and "then we take them to the Gulf," according to Sharif Ghazi.

aircraft was repaired and airborne. "This is a record. We are being called upon by professionals to maintain their aircraft, and means a great deal to us.'

Haddadin said Since 1981, AW has been considered a Fixed Base Operator (FBO), meaning that the company maintains and services its own and other companies' aircrafts, in addition to acting as distributer and a service centre for several manufacturers of equipment and spare parts.

manufactures AW aircrafts. Some training courses are also conducted locally at AW facili-

The result, as far as safety is

concerned, is that "Arab Wings has an excellent record," according to Haddadin. "We have had no incidents or accidents since 1977." (Prior to that there were two crashes, none of which involved any passengers.)

For the past five years, AW has

earned a safety award from the U.S.-based National Business Aircraft Association. "Safety is 2



A Piper Cherokee belonging to the Royal Jordanian Air Academy serviced by Arab Wings headed by

Sharif Ghazi Rakan (inset). (RJ), we complement them." The largest and perhaps strongest of AW's departments is maintenance and engineering. which employs 24 engineers and technicians comprising almost 50 per cent of AW's staff. According to Maintenance and Engineering Department Director Faisal Haddadin, at the very beginning, the AW aircraft maintenance was carried out by RJ. In 1981 however, AW established its own maintenance department and began offering maintenance services

AW now maintains all 15 aircraft for the Royal Jordanian Glider Club, one Civil Aviation Authority aircraft, as well as the weather modification aircraft which operates for five months annually. In addition to these 28 aircraft

for other aircraft.

that are serviced on a regular basis, AW also services any other visiting aircraft. In 1981, AW serviced a U.S. Federal Aviation Administration aircraft. On a number of occasions, AW has also been called upon to service, maintain and repair aircraft for other companies. Haddadin proudly cites an incident when AW was called upon by a Swiss company to service an aircraft that had developed problems in Damascus. AW engineer and technicians were sent to take care of the problem, and within four hours of receiving the call, the

servicing business and the sale of spare parts to neighbouring countries has made the engineering department a source of considerable income for the company. In this respect. "it is fair to say that the maintenance and engineering Department is self-sufficient. Haddadin said.

For every hour of maintenance, AW charges its customers \$35. "These are competitive prices compared to Europe and the U.S. where prices can go up to \$42-47 an hour," according to the department head. Income aside, the maintenance

and servicing business has earned AW considerable experience. We have been doing that since 1975, and we have come a very, very long way." Haddadin stressed. "Our engineers do a very good job. They are experienced, hand-picked, top professionals; some of them with more than 25 years of experience,' he said. noting that 40 per cent of AW technicians and engineers are exairforce personnel. The rest have civilian experience. "We feel that this combination works out perfectly, and we would like to keep

it this way," Haddadin added. Whether from a civilian or airforce background, AW engineers and technicians each year attend training programmes either at flight safety institutions in the U.S. or at the company that team effort. Our record is due to a combination of the high standard of maintenance and the professionalism of our pilots," Haddadin said. "These are two things that go hand in hand." With an eye to the future, AW is now looking at the possibility of

introducing helicopter services in

Jordan. According to Sharif Ghazi, such a service could serve among other things, to transport internal mail and to transport tourists between Amman. Aqaba, Ma'in and Petra. "There is much potential for

helicopter services in the country, but there are many factors to consider." Sharif Ghazi said. "All our studies so far have been positive, and we sincerely hope to introduce this service in Jordan. because it is needed and could serve a useful purpose."

According to Sharif Ghazi, Arab Wings is an asset to our country in that "it shows Jordan as progressive by offering the much-needed service. And, in its own way, Arab Wings is bringing hard currency into the country. We secured several maintenance contracts and hope that with our plans to expand, we will employ more people," Sharif Ghazi said. "I am proud to say that, right now, all our employees (except the four captains) are Jordanians. This contributes in a small way to serving the country."

One of the three Sabertiner 75A's being serviced at the Arab Wings

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

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Balance, yes; duplicity, no

WHY are we unconvinced of the sincerity of the United States' attempts to play the role of mediator in the Arab-Israeli conflict? Better let an American official speak for his own country. U.S. Ambassador Armando Valladares told the U.N. Commission on Human Rights in Geneva a few days ago that the United States seeks a "balanced approach" to resolving the Arab-Israeli conflict, and added that "the United States recognises that Israel has legitimate security concerns and responsibilities, chief among these responsibilities is to maintain order. Without civil order, no lasting political settlement can be reached."

One asks: If the United States feels that the maintenance of civil order is such a sacred prerequisite of the peaceful resolution of political conflicts in situations of occupation, why is it that the United States funds, arms and diplomatically supports groups in Nicaragua, Namibia and Afghanistan who use assorted means of violence to force the occupiers or the established political powers in those places to engage in political dialogue?

We find the United States to be hypocritical and

shameless in its attitude that the Palestinians should not engage in civil disorder to make a political point, but that American-backed groups are encouraged to use violence and civil disorder as a means of making a political point in Nicaragua, Afghanistan and Namibia.

Yes, we would love to see a balanced approach applied to the resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict — a balanced approach which affirms the rights of both Israelis and Palestinians to self-determination and security and human dignity. But it is obvious that American exhortations of balance are insincere and unsubstantiated by American policies in other parts of the world. We, along with the rest of the Arab World, are fed up with duplicitous American appeals and the application of double standards in the conduct of American foreign policies.

Is it any wonder, therefore, that the initial reaction to American peace-making moves throughout the Arab World this week has been a sustained, powerful andgenuine sense of disbelief? We would welcome a balanced American approach; in the meantime, we are offended by a superpower that preaches balance for others and practices imbalance itself.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Prince analyses uprising

IN an address to the general assembly of the Arab Thought Forum Friday Prince Hassan analysed the strategic as well as the historic sions of the current uprising in the occupied Arab territory. After pointing out the underlying causes of the uprising in the face of oppression, Prince Hassan said that the revolt of the Palestinians has no doubt embarrassed the Israelis whose leaders had to admit that it was a spontaneous action stemming from the deep sufferings and resulting from 20 years of oppression. Jordan, Prince Hassan said, has been the first Arab country to call for an end to Jewish settlements in the occupied Arab land and demanded that the Palestinians be granted self determination in their own homeland. He also said that Jordan, which is preoccupied with various issues cannot and will not forget or ignore national causes and national responsibilities. His address reached the silent majority of the people as much as it reached the intellectuals gathered at the Arab Thought Forum meeting. He called on the intellectuals and thinkers of the Arab World to reach to different sectors of the public providing them with moral and intellectual teaching and analysing for them the current developments and the present situation. The thinkers and intellectuals he said should not address the situation that currently exist in the Israeli-occupied Arab territory alone, but should rather extend to engulf the whole Arab area with a view to helping the majority of people to understand their present and work for the future.

Al Dustour: Prince diagnoses revolt

PRINCE Hassan Friday diagnosed various aspects of the current Arab uprising in the face of Israeli oppression and tyranny, and said that the on-going revolt was a great development in the life of the nation. This revolt which was a reaction to 20 years of occupation rule, embarrassed and upset the Israeli leaders and confused their plans, and also prompted many Israelis to ask themselves about the benefits that they can reap out of their present iron fist policies. Prince Hassan called on Arab thinkers and intellectuals gathered at the Arab Thought Forum to reassess the situation in the occupied Arab territory, following nine weeks of uprising and confrontation with the Israeli army. Prince Hassan also referred to Jordan's quiet and practical support and assistance to the Palestinian people living under Israeli rule over the past years at a time when the rest of the Arab World was content with issuing mere slogans on supporting the Palestinian people's steadfastness without actually realising the facts about this people or doing enough for their support. Prince Hassan expressed the Jordanian family's pride in the fact that the Arab Nation has re-gained its solidarity at the Amman Arab summit meeting which marks a successful beginning for any discussion on economic and social cooperation.

Sawt Al Shaab: Prince outlines Jordan's

PRINCE Hassan defined Jordan's stand with regard to the current developments in the Israeli-occupied Arab territory and the Palestinian people's revolt in the face of Israeli oppression in his address to the Arab Thought Forum on Friday. The Prince exposed in his speech Israel's false image and the Jewish state's deceptive methods in misleading the world public opinion about the realities in the occupied Arab land. The Prince pointed out that the heroic deed by our people in the occupied land came as a natural reaction to Israel's extremist measures and iron fist policy against the Arab people. This uprising, the Prince said, confused the Israeli leaders and caused trouble in their ranks. Prince Hassan urged the intellectuals and thinkers in the Arab World to help guide the public in understanding the present events and means dealing with them.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

Free enterprise system needs controls

THE CONCEPT of a free enterprise system is based on private ownership, individuals' initiative and an unimpeded interaction between supply and demand in a free market. However, these features cannot operate in a legal and organisational vacuum, otherwise they would produce chaos and lead to the law of the

jungle.

Freedom as a description to an economic system normally means that individuals and groups are allowed to make their own decisions and choices regarding production, consumption and investment. Such decisions are not made for them, or imposed on them, by the government or its officials. This, however, does not mean the absence of laws, regulations and controls, which define and determine the rules of the game, and ensure equal opportunities and fair distribution of income, as distinct from equal distribution of income and wealth.

In Lebanon, for example, the system failed and collapsed, not because it was not free but because of the weakness of the state establishment. The Lebanese central government was unable to set the rules for the system and to enforce them. The economic freedom was reduced to sheer monopolisation, exploitation, brokerage, and concentration of income and wealth. The logical and inevitable outcome was a disaster.

Some observers like to blame the political Lebanese system which allowed some margin of freedom in the fields of press, "political" parties, organisations, culture and economy. These freedoms should have led Lebanon ahead had they been practised under the protective umbrella of a strong central government willing and able to draw the line, protect the nationhood and hold

Some writers assail capitalism and the free enterprise system while what they mean is to oppose the role of government as a regulator, and controller to ensure that this system operates properly and yield the desired results.

Our recent call to curb and regulate the interbank market is a case in point on how the rules of the game should be established and enforced to safeguard the free banking system and prevent

The free enterprise system has indisputable superiority in creating growth, but that is not all. The door is wide open to ensure fair distribution as well. The accelerated income tax, insurance against old age, unemployment and disablement, compulsory education, free medical services, welfare state, antitrust laws, accountability to the people, and competition on merit basis are only few tools which are purely capitalistic.

The success of the free enterprise system requires more organisation, regulation, control, antitrust laws, accountability and crack down on the violators. Without these safeguards we end up in

We are promoters of the free enterprise system. The choice between capitalism and socialism is not the issue. We do have an established system which we describe as a free enterprise system. It should be supported and safeguarded by a comprehensive set of

checks and controls to prevent wrong doing.

A free economy should not be taken to mean lack of accountability. The state must play a larger role as regulator and enforcer, to police a fair play of the game. It should not intervene in what citizens would like to produce, consume, buy or sell. What counts is not what system we adopt, but how much scientific methods we use to make that system more effective, fair and immune to cheating, corruption and fraudulence.

The deadly silence

The absence of debate on the Middle East in U.S. elections

Democratic presidential candidates

The following is the second part of a study by Dr. James Zogby, director of the Washington-based Arab American Institute. Part one appeared in yesterday's newspaper, and part three appears



Gary Hart

Former Colorado Senator Gary Hart burst upon the political scene in the 1984 presidential race, propelled by a self-described campaign of new ideas. While some new ideas are evident in a survey of Hart's foreign policy position papers, they appear inconsistent with the candidate's stated Middle East formula and previous voting re-

Hart's Senate voting pattern is similar with those of his Democratic counterparts. An account of Hart's twelve years in the Senate reveals a record of cosponsorship of legislation to move the U.S. embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, consistent support for all aid requests to Israel and opposition to arms sales to both Saudi Arabia and Jordan.

Furthermore, a 1981 article in the London Times, featured an AIPAC staffer who referred to Senator Hart and Senator Alan Cranston (D-CA) as AIPAC's 'point people" in the Senate. In the interview, the staffer said that the two senators were the first they contacted to "get an issue

Readying himself for the 1988 campaign. Hart delivered a series of lectures at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service entitled, "Enlightened Engagement: A Foreign Policy Framework for the 21st Century," articulating the candidate's own world view. "Enlightened engagement" was Hart's framework for a policy in which U.S. military, economic, political and moral power would be exercised by "engaging other nations
— not commanding them." Hart noted that we live in "a world where we can rarely impose our

Addressing the issue of the Middle East, Hart noted that "in the last half decade, American diplomacy has ignored too many of the Middle East's internal realities," helping to "perpetuate a costly stalemate." The U.S., Hart said, cannot "expect to simply rearrange things to our liking" and that "attempts to do so can backfire in the face of local nationalism."

Those who perceived a new direction in Hart's thinking on Middle East policy would soon be disappointed. In a recent interview on the PBS forum "Candidates '88 with Marvin Kalb," Hart reverted to positions identical to current administration Middle East policy. Hart stated

- "improving the quality of life on the West Bank by an increase of money and job opportunities would lead to a decrease in radicalism:

that:

- "The restarting of the Camp David initiative to bring Israel and Jordan together is the way to negotiate peace, without the necessity of including independent Palestinian involvement; and - "There should be no Palesti-

nian state. In the same interview, when

asked if Palestinian rights was the central issue in the Middle East, Hart responded no. It is an issue, Hart said, but the key issue is that the Arab states (referred to as "confrontation states") need to recognise the permanence of



Sen. Simon (D. Ill.) has been known to be a fair and thoughtful member of Congress but, when it comes to the Middle East, his statements are at times inconsistent, even contradictory. For example, in 1982 he wrote:
"We should be willing to talk

to the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO). The United States could continue to honour Heary Kissinger's pledge not to enter into formal negotiations with the PLO, but maintain informal contact. There will be no permanent settlement of the Middle East situation until the Palestinians regard the PLO as their voice... We do neither Israel nor ourselves a favour by refusing to talk. I would not recognise them... but talk and listen, yes!"

However, two years earlier in 1980, Simon voted for an amendment to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) authorisation bill stating U.S. opposition to the official status of the PLO at IMF meetings. And, five years after writing the above passage, in 1987, he was a co-sponsor of legislation to close the PLO mission to the U.N. and the PIO in

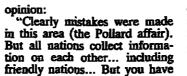
Washington, D.C. In 1980, Paul Simon was one of a very few members of Congress to avoid becoming involved in a resolution to move the U.S. embassy in Israel to Jerusalem. Four years later, however, in 1984, he was co-sponsor of the same bill and sent a letter to President Reagan urging him to make the move.

1984 was also the year that Simon ran against then Sen. Charles Percy, a campaign in which he described himself as "the best friend of Israel." That year the pro-Israel PACs and pro-Israeli activists spent millions of dollars to elect Simon and/or defeat Percy.

In a recent interview with a. Jewish newspaper, Simon stated his opposition to PLO participation in Israeli-Arab peace nego-tiations saying, "I think what the U.S. must do is to get the parties together... the resolution is up to Israel and Jordan..."

According to the article, Simon's "instinct" is to create a situation in which Palestinians on the West Bank and Gaza "could get a passport called ;sqoPalestibut goes on to say, "We nian," are dealing with emotions rather than reality, but emotions becomes reality... We can't come up with solutions unrealistic for Jordan or the Israeli government." On other issues concerning

Israel, Simon says that he does not believe that either the Pollard affair or Israel's involvement in U.S. arms sales to Iran have seriously hurt Israel's standing in Congress or in American public



in this area (the Pollard affair). But all nations collect information on each other... including friendly nations... But you have to recognise that if you get caught, you have to take the



Since first visiting the Middle East in 1979, following the forced resignation of Andrew Young as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations and during the 1979 Jackson's positions have remained essentially unchanged.

As stated in his most recent issue paper, U.S. policy in the Middle East should be built on several principles: - Palestinian rights to selfdetermination, including inde-

pendent statehood; Israel's right to security within internationally-recognised borders:

- Lebanon's right to sovereignty and freedom from partition: Normalised ties between the U.S. and all Middle East nations:

Demilitarisation of the region and increased humanitarian aid that can enhance the stability

and prosperity of all nations.

Jackson has recently added a position on the Gulf which calls for an international arms embargo of the combatants in the Gulf war and the convening of a U.N.sponsored peace conference to negotiate an end to the seven years of hostilities.

Jackson's positions on the Middle East are consistent with his overall view of the world and U.S. policy toward the Third World. Most recently enunciated in his; f2Jackson Doctrine;f1, this overall policy approach entails:

— Obedience to international law and support for human rights;

— Self-determination, not intervention;

- International economic justice and development.



Richard Gephardt

In 980, Rep. Gephardt (D-Mo.), voted against congressional

efforts to stop U.S. aid to Syria and to move the U.S. embassy ary influence of the Soviet Union and other forces hostile to the

from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. Since then his voting record has been consistently pro-Israel.
While Gephardt has a strong Syrian-Lebanese constituency and a number of Syrian-Lebanese staffers in his congressional and campaign offices, this seems to have had little impact on his

Middle East position.
In a July article in the "Houston Post," Gephardt outlines his view of the Middle East. While charging that "United States influence and credibility in the Middle East are eroding because the Reagan administration does not have a consistent, coherent and energetic policy toward the region," his policy recommenda-tions vary little from those of the Reagan administration.

Gerphardt begins by asserting: "We must not lose sight of the fact that Israel's right to exist is a fundamental and unyielding principle that guides our foreign poli-cy in the Middle East. Our bond with Israel cannot and will not be

From there he asks how the U.S. can establish itself as a bonest broker in the Middle East "(1) Presidential leadership is

essential... We are seeing a tion and an opportunity for Soviet involvement that is not in our interest. The president must make a personal commitment to energise the American role.

"(2) Develop a consistent poli-

cy on terrorism. We must not capitulate to terrorism... We must deprive terrorists of their leverage by articulating a policy of not giving in to their demands... No foreign terrorist. group including the PLO, should be given legal sanction or protection in the United States.

"(3) Persist in the Camp David process. We must overcome Egyptian and Jordanian resistance to discussing the autonomy provisions of the Camp David Accords with Israel. Direct negotiations, under our leadership, are still the best way to peace.

"(4) Support Israeli-Jordanian

cooperation;
"(5) Cool the Mideast arms race. Selling sophisticated American arms to countries at war with Israel only exacerbates tensions. "(6) Reaffirm our support for democratic institutions and hu-

man rights.



Michael Dukakis

Massachusetts Governor Dukakis's views of the Middle East are puzzling in that they so totally contradict his overall view of the world and U.S. foreign policy. Known to be one of the most dovish candidates - committed to peace through negotiations and debate - one is immediately struck by the strident nature of Dukakis's rhetoric on the Middle East.

States Dukakis: "We have a vital interest in guaranteeing the survival, security and well-being of Israel, in nising the political and milit-

West, and in ensuring that we and our allies have access to adequate oil supplies. The creation of a comprehensive Middle East peace agreement remains a central goal of our foreign policy. But we should recognise that an agreement must emerge from the changing attitudes and circumstances within the region; it cannot be imposed by outside powers; and we must recognise, as well, that the essential precondition to progress towards peace has been and remains a decision by Arab leaders to recognise Israel's right to exist, and to enter into formal, direct negotiations with Israel."

Dukakis then makes the usual Democratic gesture towards "building on the Camp David accords." Stating his intention to "encourage direct negotiations between Jordan and Israel,' Dukakis fails to spell out how such negotiations are either possi-ble or realistic, or would lead to a

With regard to the PLO, Dukakis says, "As President, I will oppose negotiations with the Palestinian (sic) Liberation Organisation until that group renounces terrorism (both in practice and in word), recognises the right of Israel to exist, and -accepts the text of U.N. Resolutions 242 and 338."



Bruce Babbitt

Former Arizona Governor Bruce Babbitt's position is almost identical to that of two other Democratic candidates, Dukakis and Gephardt. He notes:

"Our next president must work for peace and reaffirm our commitment to Israel, the only democracy and our most important ally in the region. We share common values and common geopolitical interests, and our close alliance with Israel is a direct investment in our own national security.

Babbitt then sets forth the following goals for U.S. foreign — "Securing a genuine peace. It's time to put Middle East peace

back at the top of the U.S. agenda. We need to pick up where President Carter left off, with the Camp David Accords. There is no substitute for face-toface negotiations among the adversary parties, but the United States can play an important role as instigator and honest broker.

"Commitment to Israel. A strong relationship with Israel, our most important ally in the Middle East, must remain the central end and instrument of U.S. policy in the region. Our ties to Israel are based upon common values and nominon strategic interests.

- "Economic aid for Israel. American aid to Israel represents an enduring investment in democracy, defence, and peace. Aid to Israel is one of the most cost-effective items in our national security budget." Babbitt goes on stating that there should be strong enforcement of the anti-boycott law; no negotiations with the PLO: autonomy, not independence, for the West Bank and Gaza; and a

'fair-weather friends.' Finally, in a note on the "Bab-bitt Record" supplied by his

cutting back on arms sales to

As governor of Arizona, Babbitt gained valuable experience and a personal appreciation for the ties between the United States and Israel: In two trips to the region, he conferred with Israeli leaders on bilateral relations and on economic development... In early 1986, Babbitt organised a letter from four U.S. governors urging Pope John Paul II to recognise the state of Israel.



Albert Gore

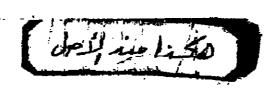
Sen. Gore (D. Tenn.) is the self-styled "hawk" among the Democratic candidates in 1988. In recent months he has sought to distance himself from the other five Democratic candidates by taking a stronger stance on national defence issues and on U.S. foreign and military policy. Gore, for example, was the only Democrat to fully support the reflagging of Kuwaiti tankers and a greater U.S. military role in the

Gore is strongly supported, both financially and politically by ImPAC '88, a group of wealthy. Jewish Democrats headed by Nate Landow. ImPAC '88 has pledged to support Gore's campaign. While predictably supportive of Israel, his positions remain vague. Nonetheless, Gore states that the U.S. ought not to take a stand in favour of an international Middle East peace conference without an Israeli consensus on the issue. Says Gore

"I think there are a number of formulas that could suffice to support a meaningful resolution of some of these issues, but it is not for an American president or presidential candidate to stipulate what a solution should be. That is for the parties themselves... I am utterly convinced there are for-

mulas that would work." Gore declines to say whether those formulas involve territorial compromise but that "they would involve assurances of security and concerning the kinds of weaponry that would be close to the

Gore's voting record while in Congress (since 1976) holds few surprises. However, he did not co-sponsor the bill to close the PLO mission and information office, although he has voted for most of the other anti-Palestinian and anti-Arab legislation that has come before him in recent years.



Forgive and forget

The state of the s International banks are changing their attitudes to Third World advisory committees which have governed the banking commun-

and or many s STATES BOTH OF THE COLUMN THE COL dogged crisis management, cracks are widening in the strategies adopted by both debtors and creditors in handling We do by the Third World debt problem. Although this implies a weaken-The state of the s ing in the solidarity which both sides, particularly the banks, have striven to maintain, it could also open the way to new prog-

The state of the s

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A of sample The cracks have been opened — on the debtors' side — by a greater determination to test new ideas and - on the banks' side by a growing readiness to recognise formally that many of the

loans will never be fully repaid. The background to this change was set by Brazil's declaration of an interest payments moratorium last February, still not ended, although recently some interest was paid. Subsequently, most of the world's large banks decided to make large provisions against their Third World loans: 25-35 per cent among the large U.S. banks who have the greatest exp-

In the past few days, some important regional U.S. banks have taken their provisions to about 50 per cent of non-traderelated loans to problem countries. There is an element of competition in this: The bigger the provision, the stronger the bank, the less encumbered its future planning. But it also implies that banks are moving towards a position where they can actually write off their LDC loans on the assumption that they will never be repaid, as some have begun to do.

Such moves would have been unthinkable in the first throes of the debt crisis when many banks could have been bankrupted by their Third World loans. Now they are better capitalised, and strategically more inclined to bear the cost if it frees them from the burden and tedium of constant worry and rescheduling.

Bankers differ

Many bankers still feel strongly that the larger, middle-income debtors such as Brazil and Mexico can and should continue to service their debts. Other bankers are more prepared to take what they can get.

Such shifts in the attitudes of both debtors and creditors could upset the delicate balancing act which has staved off disaster so far. Indeed, the World Bank has expressed reservations about recent trends in the relationship between the two.

In a report, it said that higher provisioning by banks and buildup of arrears by debtors threaten to break the mould in which the management of debt problems has been set since 1982." Provisions, it argues, reduce banks' incentive to continue participating in new loans, and conversely, payments suspen-sions make it harder for debtors to negotiate with creditors. It called for greater co-operation between the two sides and more leadership from governments in

the industrialised world. This co-operation could be forthcoming — as long as banks are prepared to use their provisions to build more flexibility into

their negotiating positions. The differing views among bankers have been spotlighted by Mexico's innovative loans-forbonds scheme, announced in December. Effectively, this invites

LONDON - After five years of to take what are intended to be once-and-for-all losses on their Mexican loans. It is still far from clear how many banks will participate in this month's auction.

Like other debtors, Mexico has watched banks not only making provisions but also trading loans among themselves at about half their face value. It sees this as an admission by banks that there is little chance of the loans being fully repaid, and is chagrined that it is still expected to service them at full value.

Mexico's plan

Mexico's plan is evidence of debtors' growing frustration with a rescheduling process which appears to condemn them to years of heavy debt-service payments without the resources to finance significant economic growth. Latin American debtors have found it increasingly difficult to reconcile the demands of foreign creditors for economic adjustment with domestic politicconstraints. Already this year, Brazil — in bankers' eyes — has gone back on a promise to keep interest payments current from the beginning of 1988. It says it never made such an undertaking

to end its payments moratorium. The Mexican plan attempts to capture the discount at which loans are trading. It invites banks to tender existing loans in return for a smaller amount of bonds. These would be of better quality than the loans they replace — principal but not interest will have U.S. government backing—and would pay a better return.

Mexico's debt burden would be lightened and the banks would have a better and more saleable

asset than they have now. Banks cannot help but welcome such a positive scheme which is in line with their own "menu" approach of alternative financing methods, designed to freshen what was clearly a wornout debt strategy. Indeed, the Mexican bonds are really an elaboration of so-called "exit bonds" which excuse the banks taking them from participating in

future new loans. For each bank, however, the offer involves complex mathema-tics depending largely on individual capital, position and reg-ulatory environment. Which course of action produces the best

- To bid aggressively and take a substantial loss on the loans tendered — taking a bond which is likely itself to fall to a discount? — To sell loans for cash in-

- To take no action at all, hoping that Mexico's eased debt burden will actually enhance the quality of existing loans? The answer will vary from bank

An important precedent

More fundamentally, this plan forces each bank to consider its future strategy and the adequacy of its provisions. It will set an important precedent if it is successful in attracting enough com-petitive bids. Banks which take part will have to write off a portion of their existing loans, accepting for good that they will not be fully repaid.

It is significant that the plan carries the stamp of Morgan Guaranty Trust, the New York bank which is acting as Mexico's agent. This is one of the biggest banks to compete with each other lenders and a member of the

ity's strategy of rescheduling debt

over longer maturities. Gonzalo de las Heras, the Morgan executive responsible for Latin America, insists that the scheme does not undermine existing debt strategy by setting a precedent for debt forgiveness. Accepting the bonds, he says in voluntary debt forgiveness in the sense that you are given something that you like more than what you have."

Debt forgiveness

However, certain banks have already written off some of their debts. Bankers are quick to point out that this is not the same as debt forgiveness, but it is easy for

debtors to equate the two.

Two medium-size American banks, the Bank of Boston and American Express Bank, plan to write off \$200 million and \$80 million respectively of Latin American loans. Both were keen to point out the advantages of taking their write-offs. Robert Smith, chairman of Amex Bank, described the bank's whole package of LDC debt reduction mea-sures as part of "an orderly exit from cross-border lending", which would give his bank more flexibility.

Ira Stepanian, president of the Bank of Boston, said it would reduce his bank's exposure to the Third World as well as its future reliance on interest income from the loans. And, freed of the worry, he can now get on with his

But other bankers both in

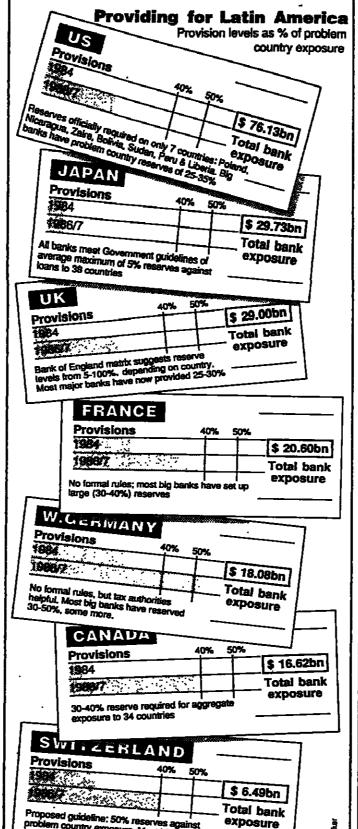
Europe and the U.S. are less enthusiastic about taking the same route, for several reasons: — Principle. To forgive Third World debts would set a prece-dent which could be damaging to other parts of the banks' loan portfolios, and involve them in further losses. It would also weaken their bargaining power with the debtor nations. All this would outweigh whatever political credit the banks might earn for valuing their Third World loans at more realistic levels.

— Impact on Bank Strength.
U.S. banks still count the provisions as part of their "primary capital," the key determinant of balance sheet strength. So big write-offs would weaken their capital ratios and force them to raise more funds in the market. However, under the new international bank capital proposals of the Cooke Committee, countries will have to phase provisions out of the capital calculations, so there may be more room for Europe, banks are better placed to make write-offs.

But in the U.K., banks are being pressed by the Bank of England to move only at the pace of the slowest runners — Standard Chartered Bank, Midland Bank and Lloyds Bank - whose LDC exposure is relatively the

- Solidarity. Few bankers are willing to take a bold step of their John Reed, chairman of Citicorp, who triggered last year's provisions, is unlikely to do the same on write-offs: He has stated his firm opposition to them, and Citicorp could not afford such a move because of the balance sheet effects.

— No Logic. Bankers argue that write-offs would make little or no contribution to easing the Third World debt burden, unless they went one stage further and forgave the debt they had written down. This they are not prepared



to do. Both Bank of Boston and Amex Bank said they still expected to be repaid in full — and they will use any interest they receive in the meantime to write down other debts. The Mexican scheme involved a commitment manoeuvre in the longer run. In to forgive debt, which is why so many banks oppose it.

— Continued involvement in

ource: IBCA Banking Analysis

problem country exposure. Most big banks have reserved 30-60%.

rescheduling and calls for new money. A bank writing off its debt would not escape any obligation to participate in future efforts to raise new loans to help finance interest payments — un-less it has formally agreed to forgive the debt. So it would not shake off the problem of being a Third World creditor.

The debate about write-offs is sharpened by doubts over which loans should be written down and by how much. The loans which Bank of Boston and Amex wrote off were to specific types of borrowers, which they did not identify, although Amex said its loans were all in the private sector. Bankers could argue with some force, however, that there is no need to write off loans totally which continue to trade at 50 per cent of their face value in the secondary market. However,

bankers know that this market is an unreliable guide to secondhand loan values, and they would never be able to sell a useful amount of loans at once. John Aitken, the bank stock

exposure

analyst at County Natwest, the investment banking arm of the National Westminster group, says bankers are going through "a mental unravelling process" over write-offs. "In not many months, or maybe a year, they will start writing their loans off," he pre-The central issue is that write-

offs will not aid the Third World debt problem unless they lead to forgiveness. Mexico is testing one way of extracting such forgive-ness from the banks but the sums are small and an unspoken condition of participation by the banks in the bond deal is that no precedents are being set. Nonetheless, as has often happened in the debt crisis, progress can come from sudden and unexpected quarters. The banks are undergoing a slow change in attitudes; in the months ahead, that process would perhaps lead to brave actions — and the first step towards widespread forgiveness — Financial Times feature.

Protesters clash with **Israelis**

(Continued from page 1) points in Abu Tor on the 1948 ceasefire line dividing West Jerusalem from the Arab eastern

Arab residents in the northern Jerusalem neighbourhood of Anatot blocked the road to the Jewish suburb of Neve Yaacov with burning tyres. Police dispersed them with tear-gas.

Palestinians in Arab neighbourhoods on Mount Scopus threw stones at Israeli vehicles but no injuries were reported. In the West Bank town of

Jericho, protesters hurled rocks at the car of Israeli-appointed Mayor Jamil Sabri Khalaf, smashing the windshield, the Palestine Press Service reported. There were no injuries.

In the Azzeh village near Beth-lehem, soldiers fired rubber bullets and live ammunition to disperse protesters, the Palestine Press Service said.

An army spokesman said there were stone-throwing incidents at several villages and Palestinian refugee camps in the West Bank. Reporters trying to enter Heb-ron were turned back by troops. Eight Palestinians were shot by soldiers and 21 were admitted to hospital after being beaten by troops during protests in the occupied territories Friday. The Israeli prime minister, Yitzhak Shamir, toured the Gaza Strip, where the protests began in December, and pronounced the area "calm.

New settlements

Israel Radio, meanwhile, said the government would soon begin construction of three new settlements near the "green line."

Murphy in Syria

(Continued from page 1)

from U.S. President Ronald Reagan to Assad, but would not disclose its contents. "No further details," he said before boarding the car of U.S. Ambassador William Eagleton.

Before leaving Washington, State Department spokesman Charles Redman said the U.S. objective was "face-to-face negotiations to resolve the problems which have existed for so long between Israel and its neigh-

Murphy was expected to visit Saudi Arabia and Israel as part of his Middle East tour.

"This affirms continuation of the American policy in its way which is hostile to our people and our cause," it said in a communi-que issued Friday night.

Oadhafi ends visit

(Continued from page 1)

"In truth, I am very happy and incapable of expressing what I feel about my pride in my brother Zine Al Abidine Ibn Ali and his collaborators," Qadhafi said before leaving Tunis.

The visit was Qadhafi's first to Tunisia since 1984. Qadhafi also met Saturday with

Chadli Klibi, secretary-general of the Tunis-based Arab League. Qadhafi flew to Annaba in eastern Algeria to meet with Algerian President Chadli Ben-jedid

The official Algerian news agency APS said later, Qadhafi arrived at Annaba near the Tunisian border where he was met by Benjedid, Foreign Minister Ahmad Taleb Ibrahimi and Interior Minister Al Hadi Khediri.

New U.S. 'initiative' draws doubts

(Continued from page 1)

professor of political science at the University of Jordan Kamel Abu Jaber, head of the Amman World Affairs Council. According to Abu Jaber, Reagan will not engage actively in the region lest his party's chances of winning the presidential elections are undermined. Reagan also appears to be careful not to damage his own retirement plans which would need the support of the American community, which is heavily influenced by the Zionists,

But even if the U.S. is serious about reactivating the peace process, the direction that any initiative would take will be influenced by the inherent American-Israeli relationship, said Parliament member Fuad Furaja.

Faraj sees no hope that the U.S. will shift its support for Israel since Israel serves specific American interests in the region. These interests, according to Faraj, include maintaining the fragmentation of the Arab world (started by the British colonialists), creating political unrest in the region and consequently ensuring a stable market for American arms.

Furthermore, Faraj argues, due to the special Israeli role in promoting American interests and playing a pivotal part in some of the American covert operations in the region and elsewhere, Israel has acquired a "blackmailing power on the U.S."

For most analysis this pessimistic outlook was only enhanced by

the American attitude towards the Palestinian uprising though some argued that the U.S. position was undergoing real changes.

A staunch advocate of this view is a former minister and the leader of the Democratic Unionist gathering, Jamal Al Shaer, who believes that the Palestinian uprising has made Washington reconsider its position on the Middle East problem.

Uprising created new facts

"The Palestinian uprising has reminded the Americans that the Palestinian question cannot be shelved," said Shaer. He also argued that the uprising might have changed the American perception of the situation in the occupied territories and of a possible settlement to the problem. The uprising has clearly proved that what the people want is not an improvement of the quality of life but an end to the occupation," he said.

In his opinion, the uprising has created new facts which have further influenced the American position. These new factors include the split within the American Jewish community, the differences among world Jewish leaders and a changing attitude of the American public towards Israel.

The American administration is also concerned not to alienate

its Arab allies "who support and admire the American democracy," according to Shaer. According to this analysis, it has now become an American

interest to move towards reviving the peace process. "The Americans feel that there is something they can do to limit the Soviet role," said Shaer. Shaer's views are shared by a former Jordanian diplomat. "The

U.S. feels isolated and cornered and has to do something to appease the Arab countries," said the former diplomat.

But he expressed doubts that the American move will meet Arab demands or expectation. He noted that all ideas which had been "leaked" to the press so far fell short of fulfilling the Arab

Palestinian question in all of its aspects. "Therefore, what is the use of any American move if it cannot be accepted by the parties involved?" he asked. "The U.S. is not helping the Arab governments to take any step further.'

demands for an international peace conference and addressing the

'No more than a tactic'

Other analysis go further by arguing that any new American step or initiative will not be more than a tactic to quell the uprising by creating the illusion to the Arab governments that there is still hope and bypassing the call for an international peace conference. This view is shared by Arar, Abu Jaber and Saleh. "In my view,

whatever the U.S. is suggesting aims at gaining time to enable Israel to crush the Palestinian uprising and at excluding the idea of an international peace conference," Arar said. Seen in this context, the same analysts did not rule out the possibility that the U.S. would try to build upon the old-new

concept of "self-trile." They believe that the U.S. position has drawn closer to the

Israeli right-wing Likud party, which calls for "self-rule" for the Palestinians in the occupied territories within a one-year interim

Abu Jaber commented: "The Palestinian uprising is working against the Labour Party and for Likud because of the composi tion of the Israeli electorate, seen in the shift to the right in Israeli polls. Washington is also watching this trend and they like to support a winner."

But a Palestinian analyst said that it was unlikely that the Americans would endorse "self-rule" by itself "since it has been already rejected by Jordan."

"Therefore, a new American initiative should include new ingredients that would make it appealing to Arab governments and at least to a segment of the population in the occupied territories," he said.

According to the same analyst, one of the American objectives of floating new ideas could be to create "a split in the united Palestinian front in the territories and within the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO)." Shaer strongly opposes such an assessment. He argues that the Arab countries and the PLO should seize the opportunity and

seriously consider the new American proposals. He even supports a reported, albeit unconfirmed, American plan, to hold municipal council elections in the occupied territories, thus forming some form of Palestinian "self-rule" pending the convening of an international peace conference in

New age crystals not just another pretty rock

NEW YORK — For years crystals were used to keep radios tuned, watches accurate, and computers running. One type was even a girl's best friend. Now the old dependable crystal

has become a "new age" phe-nomenon — part of the mix of spiritualism and self-improvement in vogue in the 1980s. Hundreds of thousands of people in the United States now use

crystals for everything from cur-

ing headaches and energising their sex lives to making contact with past lives or outer space. Donna Sessier, a jewellery designer who calls herself "a spiritual gemologist and healer," describes crystals as "life force, God force, God in action in physical

Crystals are rocks, but not all rocks are crystals. While the molecular structure of rocks is random, the crystalline structure is beautifully ordered.

To achieve this order — which goes against the universal tendency towards entropy, or chaos tremendous energy is required

over long periods. A former suburban teacher, Sessler is now a minister in the Church of Tzaddi, "a universal metaphysical church of truth and light for the coming age of aquarius." She teaches on crystals at an adult education centre. tonrmaline for soothing the

Three dozen people, young and elderly, devotee and novice, packed a classroom recently to isten as Sessler, who has been studying crystals for 11 years, extolled their virtues.

Love your crystal

"How do you clear a cloudy crystal" (if you love a crystal it will clear for you, Sessler advised).

"How can you use crystals to get a good night's sleep?" (arrange them under the mattress in the form of a triangle).
"What are chakras?" (there are seven chakras, or energy cen-

tres on the body. A crystal applied to the navel chakra, for example, will increase the power One young woman wondered

why holding certain crystals made her dizzy. Sessler explained she could be "over-amped" by the intense energy emanating from crystals and recommended holding a "grounding" stone to counteract the effect.

A cure for every ailment

Sessler uses many types of crystals for healing, including agate for hardening tender gums, azu-rite for revitalising damaged tissue, diamond for respiratory problems, garnet for helping the liver get rid of toxins, and green

Although healers have their own ideas about which crystals work for a specific illness, most believe crystals heal by emitting beneficial vibrations when applied to the chakras.

But while the number of crystal believers is growing steadily, not everybody is ready to sing their

"A loony trend that originated in the loony centres of the country," is how Dr. George Harlow, Curator of mineral sciences at the American Museum of Natural History in New York, describes

"To all the healers and followers I say 'show me proof' they can't, because there is no proof.' Harlow, who believes scientists

should be more outspoken in debunking outlandish claims, maintains: "Their beliefs go against the scientific method, which is that all physical principles work the same for all people. In the new age world of crystals, certain people can make crystals do things that others can't."

Harlow also believes the trend is dangerous if people abandon traditional medicine for dubious healing methods.

Richard Berger, the founder of Crystal Resources, a store on Manhattan's smart East Side, is also impatient with some of the

claims about crystals, "People are constantly coming into the store with a specific ache

or pain asking for the right crystal," he said, scoffing at what he calls "the take two tourmalines and call me in the morning school of healing.'

But he does believe in the power of crystals to heal, which he says comes from using them as "tools to be still with, to mediate with, to help explore your inner reality."

No scientific proof

Despite the lack of scientific proof of their powers, crystals are big business. Twelve crystal stores now operate in the New York area alone, and more than 2,000 new age bookstores around the country sell a steady stream of books on the subject - often with conflicting and widely diverging claims.

Even Bergdorf Goodman, the Fifth Avenue department store, has a line of crystal jewellery, including chunks of quartz encased in bamboo pouches selling for up to \$4,000, by trendy desig-

A recent message from Chow in the main floor display case read, "Don't think of these as fashion jewellery but more as personal amulets and power pieces.... I believe they are healing pieces and tools for clearing

The store reports the line has been selling briskly.



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CHINESE







Liverpool stumbles against West Ham; Luton beats Oxford

"Busby Babes" and at the time

one of the world's most exciting

After Saturday's silent tribute.

Liam O'Brien made sure the

anniversary co-incided with a Un-

ited victory, scoring the only goal

of the game after four minutes to

keep United in third spot on 48

playing Sunday in the first leg of their English League Cup semi-final, Queen's Park Rangers took

the opportunity to move up be-tween them into fifth position

with a 2-0 victory over bottom

Mark Falco headed Rangers

ahead shortly before halftime and

substitute John Byrne netted the

second midway through the

Wimbledon dropped back a place to seventh after being held 0-0 at home by Newcastle.

Two goals in the last 12 mi-

nutes from captain Mel Sterland

and striker Lee Chapman earned

Sheffield Wednesday a 2-1 win over Southampton who had taken

an early lead when striker Colin

Clarke scored the 100th league

goal of his career from the penal-

ners against fellow-strugglers

Derby for whom winger Ted

McMinn, signed from Spanish

First Division club Seville in mid-

week, made a promising debut.

A mistake by England goal-keeper Peter Shilton, who failed to hold on to a cross, gifted Vince Hilaire Portsmouth's opening

goal. Mark Wright equalised, but Mick Quinn bit a late winner for

Norwich and Watford's clash

billed in advance as a relega-

gested the IOC might seek to

resolve the problem by ruling that

boycotting countries would be

denied a share of the revenue

hood of a games ban being imposed on boycotting countries, despite a warning in December by IOC President Juan Antonio

Samaranch that such a measure

ber have attracted a record entry

of 161 nations despite concern

over a possible Communist

boycott in support of North Korea's demands for a share of

Doping will also be a major issue for the IOC before the Winter Olympics open Feb. 13 and the executive board is expected to consider the case of Nikolai Gulyayev, the Soviet speed skater at the centre of a steering controversy.

steroids controversy.

Norwegian officials have

alleged Gulyayev sold steroids to

Norwegian skater Stein Krosby

and have asked for the Soviet world champion to be banned

But there seemed little likeli-

produced by the games.

might be considered.

Portsmouth were also 2-1 win-

club Charlton.

second period.

ty spot.

Portsmouth.

IOC begins week-long

deliberations at Calgary

CALGARY, Alberta (Agencies) ecutive board to judge each case

The International Olympic separately."

With Everton and Arsenal

club sides, was wiped out.

LONDON (Agencies) — Runaway leaders Liverpool suffered a rare indignity Saturday when they stumbled to a 0-0 draw at home to West Ham and found themselves upstaged by the goal exploits of two of the English First Division's least fashionable clubs.

While Liverpool struggled to extend their club record unbeaten start to the season to 25 matches, Luton beat Oxford 7-4 in an extraordinary clash in front of only 8,000 fans at Kenilworth

Liverpool's point against West Ham kept them 15 points clear of Nottingham Forest and Manchester United at the top. Forest beat Chelsea 3-2 and United, 30 years to the day after the Munich air disaster killed eight of the "Busby Babes," beat Coventry 1-0.

Luton, unbeaten in eight games, made a storming start against Oxford and led 2-0 after only 19 minutes thanks to goals from Mick Harford and Brian

But Oxford fought back to make it 3-2 at the interval, Dean Saunders with a penalty and Martin Foyle sandwiching another Luton strike from Darron McDo-

Luton striker Mark Stein then scored an 11-minute hat-trick at the start of the second half. Oxford replying through Richard Hill, to put the home team 6-3 ahead and further goals followed from Harford and Les Phillips before the final whistle.

The two teams meet again Wednesday at Oxford in an English League Cup semifinal first

In Scotland, Glasgow Celtic stayed ahead of city rivals Rangers, at the top of the Premier League, but Rangers' 2-1 win at Aberdeen was marred by the dismissal of international defender

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Richard Gough Liverpool, missing Gary Gillespie and Ronnie Whelan from their regular side, had several chances to win against West Ham, but were wayward with their finishing and had to settle for only their sixth draw in 25 unbeaten league outings. It was, however, their 10th successive match without conceding a goal.

Nottingham Forest manager Brian Clough had his son Nigel to thank for his team's narrow win over Chelsea. Striker Clough returned to the team after injury for the first time since boxing day and scored the winner with a 66th

Earlier, the second-placed team - who still lead Manchester. United on goal difference - had gone into a 2-0 lead with goals from Colin Foster and new boy Gary Crosby before Chelsea re-sponded early in the second half with two goals in four minutes from Kerry Dixon and Kevin

Most of the spotlight fell on Old Trafford, home of Manchester United. Players and fans of United and visiting Coventry City observed an emotional one minute's silence to mark the 30th anniversary of the Munich air

The accident, which occurred on Feb. 6, 1958, took place as the United team, under the management of Matt Busby, was on its way home from a European champions cup match in Bel-

Committee (IOC) will consider

this weekend what sanctions to

impose against countries boycot-

ting the games.
IOC Administrator Raymond

Gafner told Reuters Friday that a

working group set up in December was expected to make a re-

commendation within the next 48

The group's views will be considered by a weekend meeting of the IOC executive board before

being put forward for ratification

The IOC must try to resolve

the dilemma posed by political boycotts. While it is intent on

punishing countries which with-

draw from the games after accepting an invitation to com-

pete, it is also eager to avoid.

imposing further penalties against

clear that we must do something,

but we must remain flexible,"
Gafner said. "There must be

some form of sanctions but it must remain possible for the ex-

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Abdalı area.

"In my opinion, it is absolutely

Most of the team, known as the

LEAGUE STANDINGS

LONDON (AP) - Standings after Saturday's British socces matches (played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, goals against and

English League

Division One	P	W	D	Ļ	F	A	rış	П
Liverpool	25	19	6	0	59	11	63	ł I
Nottingham Forest	25	14	6	5	49	23	48	
Manchester United	26	13	9	4	39	25	48	ı
Everton	25	12	7	6	36	16	43	
Queens Park Rangers	26	12	7	7	32	28	43	П
Arsenai	26	12	6	8	37	25	42	П
Wimbledon	26	11	8	7	39	30	41	ı
Luton	25	îî	5	ģ	39	30	38	l
	26	11	4	11	33	39	37	ı
Sheffield Wednesday	25		9	8	30	35	33	ı
Newcastle	26	8 9 8	6	11	26	31	33	П
Tottenham	26	6	8	10	34	38	32	H
Southampton	20	0		9	28	34	31	1 !
West Ham	26	7	10		20	45	31	Н
Chelsea	27	8	7	12	33	43	29	li
Portsmouth	27	6	11	10	26	43	27	Li
Norwich	26	7	5	14	23	33	26	l
Coventry	24	6	7	11	24	39	25	П
Derby County	24	6	6	12	21	30	24	l
Watford	26	5	8	13	17	32	23	H
Oxford	25	6	5	14	32	53	23	ı
Charlton	26	4	8	14	23	40	20	ı

	Scotti	sh L	eague)			
Premier Division			•				
Celtic	31	20	9	2	57	19	49
Rangers	32	20	6	6	60	22	46
Hearts	32	17	12	3	60	24	46
Aberdeen	32	16	12	4	45	19	44
Dundee	31	14	6	11	58	40	44 34 32
Dundee United	32	11	10	11	34	36	32
Hibernian	32	8	13	11	29	35	29 25 24
St. Mirren	31	7	11	13	33	45	25
Motherwell	32	ġ	6	17	26	44	24
Falkirk	32	6	8	18	30	59	20
Dunfermline	31	5	8	18	24	60	18
Morton	32	2	ğ	21	22	75	13

Joyner-Kersee, O'Sullivan and

Melinte shine at Millrose games

Scottish Premier League

In Scotland, Andy Walker hit the only goal of the game to secure Celtic's 1-0 home win over Motherwell and Rangers, inspired by player-manager Graeme Souness, won a stormy match at Aberdeen 2-1.

England goalkeeper Chris Woods, returning to the team after four weeks out with injured ribs, was Rangers' hero with a

NEW YORK (R) — Convincing victories by American Jackie

Joyner-Kersee in the long jump and Milers Marcus O'Sullivan of

Ireland and Doina Melinte of

Romania highlighted the Millrose

indoor games Friday.

However, the only world indoor best in the Slat Millrose meet at Madison Square Garden

went to American Tim Lewis in

the mile walk. Lewis' time was five minutes 33.53 seconds as he eclipsed his old mark of 5:38.02

Melinte came closest to a world

record. Her winning time of 4:21.45 was the second fastest in

the world. The world indoor re-

cord of 4:20.5 was set in 1982 by

American Mary Decker.
Melinte, the 1984 Olympic gold

medallist in the 800 metres, took the lead from Briton Kirsty Wade with one lap to go and pulled away. Wade finished second in

In her indoor season debut, Joyner-Kersee was aiming for the

world indoor long jump record of 24 feet, ¼ inch (7.32 metres) set by Heike Dreschler of East Ger-

Instead, the reigning world champion in the heptathlon and outdoor long jump had to settle

for the Millrose meet record of 22

which he set last year.

series of fine saves after Gough was sent off for tripping Willie Falconer in the 54th minute.

Ally McCoist and Gough had put Rangers 2-0 ahead by halftime, but Jim Bett pulled a goal back with a 46th minute penalty.

Hearts moved up to third and proved their challenge remains a powerful one by thrashing St. Mirren 6-0 on their own ground. John Colquhoun scored a hat-trick and John Robertson twice.

feet, 8½ inches set on her sixth

and final jump.
With seven time Wanamaker

mile winner Eamonn Coghlan of

Ireland sitting out this meet be-

cause of back injury, compatriot

O'Sullivan surged to his second

Wanamaker mile victory in the

last three years in a time of

O'Sullivan, who beat Coghlan

in 1986 and the finished second to

him last year, took the lead from

another Irish runner, Gerry

O'Reilly, with a little more than a

lap to go.

Briton Peter Elliott closed the

gap down the stretch, but did not

have enough power to overtake

The expected challenge of

world outdoor mile champion

Abdi Bile never materialised as

the Somalian finished fourth in

The world's number one hurd-

ler Greg Foster of the U.S.

chased down rival American Re-

naldo Nehemiah with an explo-

sive midrace burst to win the 55

metre high hurdles in a 7.07

Nehemiah faded badly to fifth

place behind compatriots Arthur Blake, Cletus Clark and Jack

Pierce. Blake was second in 7.10.

Nehemiah, the world record

holder in this event, is on the

comeback trail after Achilles ten-

don surgery a year ago and is still struggling to find his old form and

O'Sullivan.

the field of seven.

to host

San Diego will meet New Zealand merchant banker Michael Fay of the Mercury Bay Boating Club on the water in a multihulled catamaran, possibly holding the first race on Sept. 4. Fay's challenge called for a mono-hul-

The waters off Hawaii were the only other site that had been mentioned by Sail America, who manages the San Diego Yacht Club's cup defence, but Fred Smales, who headed Hawaii's America's Cup effort, said he had

Diego to host the sailing event.
"If successful (in 1988), the
ultimate goal is to race in San
Diego in 1991 in 12-metres," said Sail America Vice President Tho-

winds or for a heavy-winded site but proven sailing," said Ehman. Long Beach has been the host of the 1984 Olympic sailing com-

regatta Ehman said San Diego would like to see a best-of-seven series, but, sources say New Zealand would like a best-of-five race. partner to spur Yugoslavia to a the second round.
2-1 lead over India in New Delhi. In Accra, Kenya Zivojinovic, partnered by 21-year-old Goran Prpic, wore down Vijay and Anand Amritraj to win

Edberg, Jarryd ensure place for

booked Sweden's place in the second round of the Davis Cup the doubles clash 7-5, 6-3, 3-6, World Group competition with a 2-6, 9-7. 6-3, 7-5, 6-4 win over New Zea-Indian number one Ramesh land's Kelly Evernden and David Krishnan meets Bruno Oresar The victory gave defending champions Sweden an unbeatable and Vijay Amritraj Plays Zivoimovic in the reverses singles

3.0 lead without having lost a set "Bobo" Zivojinovic, one of the biggest servers in the game, and ahead of Sunday's reverse singles the wily Vijay were forced to play in doubt, with the Swedes taking only 24 minutes to win the first dominant roles to compensate for their partners fallibility in serving

Sunday.

and their net play. In Palermo, Sicily, Israel's Amos Mansdorf and Shahar Perset on the strength of a devastating display of accurate first serves kiss beat Paolo Cane and Diego Davis Cup three times in the last

Nargiso 7-5, 6-3, 6-4. Italy leads Israel 2-1 at the end of the second day of competition. In Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia kept its Davis Cup hopes alive when Chow Chin Chuan and Veera Selvam won their doubles match to deny Sri Lanka the winning point it was seeking in losing just one set.
Wilander, the Australian Open champion, did not play here because he is taking six weeks off. their tennis tie.

Sri Lanka had taken a 2-0 lead through the singles matches Fri-day and was hoping to wrap up the tie through brothers Arjun and Sujit Fernando but had to concede its doubles match while trailing 5-7, 7-9 because Ariun suffered an ankle injury.
Chow lost to Umesh Walloop-

pillai and Selvam to Arjun Friday. They will meet in Sunday's Slobodan Zivojinovic overcame the experience of his opponents and the inexperience of his own reverse singles to decide which team qualifies to meet Pakistan in

Sweden in second round of Davis Cup In Accra, Kenya took a 2-0

lead over Ghana after the opening singles matches of the Davis Cup African Zone Group Two tie Eno Polo beat Franklin Ofori

4-6, 6-0, 6-0, 9-7 and Paul Wekesa beat Kojo Atiso 6-4, 6-2, 6-1. In Jakarta, Indonesian Suharyadi defeated Thanakorn Sirchapant of Thailand 6-2, 6-1, 3-6, 6-4 Saturday to give his team a 2-0 lead over Thailand in the Asian-Oceania zone

In Mexico City, Australia was ahead one match to zero and up a set in the second in its first round Davis Cup tie with Mexico Fri-day, when bad light halted competition for the day.

In the second singles match, Australian Wally Masur took the first set 6-3 from Mexican Francisco Maciel and the two were tied at two games each in the second set when play was suspended.

The match was to be resumed Saturday before the scheduled

Earlier in the day, in a five hour, four set marathon, Pat Cash defeated Leonardo Lavalle to put Australia one match up. Playing before 8,000 partisan Mexican fans, Cash defeated Lavalle 5-7, 6-4, 6-1, 11-9.

Last year's Wimbledon champion Cash appeared to have diffi-culties with the rough clay court and the noisy crowd but was able to overpower the tenacious

Long Beach America's Cup

GAVLE, Sweden (Agencies) — Doubles partners Stefan Edberg

and Anders Jarryd Saturday

The outcome was never really

from both players. Sweden, which has won the

four years, increased its winning

streak in Davis Cup play to eight

matches with Saturday's doubles

triumph. The Swedes, led by Mats Wilander, whipped India

5-0 in last December's final on

indoor clay at Goteborg, Sweden,

But he has said he will play in the second round April 8-10, when

Sweden is likely to get the home-court advantage against Czechos-lovakia. The Czechs led Paraguay

2-0 after the opening singles in

In another World Group game,

SAN DIEGO (R) — The waters off the coast of Long Beach, 190 kilometres north of San Diego, California, will be the site of the 1988 America's Cup regatta in September, it was announced Fri-

Sail America Foundation, which had previously announced that they would use a strict interpretation of the deed of gift -the document that lays the ground rules for America's Cup sailing — and not announce the site until 90 days before the match made the announcement at a hurriedly called news confer-

led 90-foot boat.

never been contacted by San

mas Ehman.
"We're not looking for light

petition and every year hosts the prestigious Congressional Cup

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Alen wins Swedish Motor Rally

KARLSTAD (R) — Finland's Markku Alen drove his Lancia to victory Saturday in the Swedish Motor Rally, the second event of the 1988 World Championship. Swede Stig Blomevist was second in a Ford, followed by compatriot Lars Erik Torph in an Audi.

France wins four-nation tournament

MONACO (R) — France, fallen European champions, won a four-nation soccer tournament when they defeated Morocco 2-1 in the final Friday. Striker Yannick Stopyra headed both French goals, one in each half, from passes by Jean-Marc Ferreri to give the home team a little encouragement after a dire slide since the 1986 World Cup finals. But the victory over a team shorn of its best players was not wholly convincing and France still have a long way to go as they try to rebuild their fortunes following the departure of Michel Platini and most of the key players who lifted them to two World Cup semifinals. Switzerland, beaten 2-1 by France in Toulouse Tuesday, took third place with a 2-1 win over Austria, their first over their Alpine neighbours in 20 years.

Foreman stops Italian titleholder

LAS VEGAS (R) - Former American heavyweight world champion George Foreman continued his successful comebaci when he stopped Italian champion Guido Trane in the fifth round here Friday night. The 39-year-old Foreman, who has stopped all seven of his opponents since returning to the ring 11 months ago after a 10-year layoff, had no problem with Trane, halting him at two minutes 39 seconds of the round. The one-sided bout was stopped by the ring physician after Trane suffered a possible broken nose and sustained a deep cut on his left eyelid, both inflicted in the fifth round. Foreman who reigned as heavyweight champion from 1973 to 1974, improved his record to 52-2 (49 knockouts) and is now scheduled to fight Scandinavian champion Anders Eklund of Sweden here March 19.

Starling retains WBA welter crown

ATLANTIC CITY (R) — American Marion Starling made his first successful defence of the World Boxing Association welterweight championship when he outpointed Fujio Ozaki of Japan over 12-rounds here Friday. Judge Wiso Fernandez of Puerto Rico scored the fight 118-110, judge Rodolfo Maldanado of Panama corred it 117-114, and Carlos Sucre of Venezuela had it 117-112 in favour of Starling. Starling improved his record to 45-4 while Ozaki's now stands at 21-5. In other bouts, three-times world champion Roberto Duran of Panama raised his record to 82-7 with an unanimous 10-round decision over American Ricky Stackhouse in a 10-round middleweight contest.

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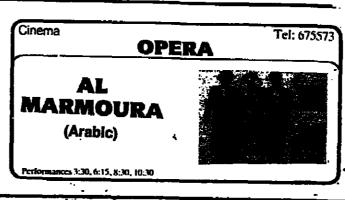
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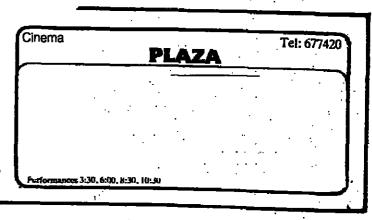
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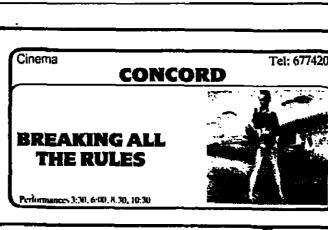
Interested applicants should submit application and

Deadline for submitting applications is February 12, 1988. Top candidates will be called for personal interviews.

Cinema CONCORD BREAKING ALL THE RULES ces 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30







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NEWS IN BRIEF

Jordanian-Saudi committee meets tomorrow

AMMAN (J.T.) — Developing Jordanian-Saudi economic and trade relations will be the focus of talks to be held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, Monday by the Jordanian-Saudi Joint Economic Committee. The Jordanian side will be led by Industry and Trade Secretary General Mohammad Sagqaf who will also discuss means of facilitating the flow of goods and travel between Jordan and Saudi Arabia. Saqqaf will be accompanied by Industry and Trade, Interior, Transport and Customs officials and representatives from the Royal Scientific Society, and the Amman chambers of industry and commerce.

Ma'an to spend JD 0.8m on roads, walls

AMMAN (Petra) - The Public Works Department in Ma'an Governorate will spend a total of JD 836,000 on roads and maintenance of walls during 1988, according to department director Awad Abu Hilaleh. He said that work on a number of roads will begin in the coming days according to plans set by the department and approved by the Ministry of Public Works.

Swiss exhibitions invite Jordanians

AMMAN (J.T.) - The Amman Chamber of Commerce has received invitations to take part in a number of international exhibitions to be held in Switzerland this month. These exhibitions will be held in Zurich, Lusanne, Montreaux and Berne for displaying products ranging from shoes to industrial goods.

The day of Algeria offers to build gas pipeline across Morocco

ALGIERS (Agencies) — Algeria has offered to build a gas pipeline across neighbouring Morocco to Europe if a solution to the Western Sahara war begins to emerge, news agency APS ern Sahara war begins to emerge, the official news agency APS

reported Friday. Diplomats said the suggestion by President Chadli Benjedid, reported by APS, held out substantial benefits for Morocco in exchange for a peace settlement in the former Spanish colony. where Algeria supports Polisario guerrillas fighting against Moroc-

can rule. The president told a meeting of governors Thursday that "in the event that a settlement begins to emerge" in the Western Sahara, Algeria would also reopen its frontiers with Morocco and restore diplomatic relations, the agency said.

Algeria closed its frontier and Morocco broke off relations in 1976 when Polisario guerrillas started their campaign to gain ment signed Thursday.

control of Western Sahara. After restoring relations, Algeria would also "elaborate joint projects (with Morocco) including the gas pipeline which would benefit our western neigh-bour," Chadli said, adding that the pipeline would go to Spain and the rest of Europe.

Algeria is stepping up exploitation of its extensive natural gas deposits. Morocco has to import most of its energy.

Morocco favours a U.N.-sponsored referendum in the disputed territory, but it rejects U.N. calls, backed by Algeria, for direct talks with Polisario guerrillas before the vote.

Algeria to supply gas to Greece and Turkey

APS also reported that Algeria will supply Greece with 12 billion cubic metres of natural gas over a 20-year period under an agree-

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1988

From the Cartoli Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You may feel somewhat confused this morning as to how and with whom the day should be spent. Later in the day, however, conditions will

ARIES (Mer. 21 to Apr. 19) A re-cent acquaintance could make you feel quite nervous, so steer clear of

feel quite nervous, so steer clear of this person. Get together with some old friends tonight.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20)
This is a good day to relax and plan your schedule for the coming week. Enjoy your family and friends, but get plenty of rest tonight.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21)
You may not be in the mood for fun this morning, so get busy at those

this morning, so get busy at those little chores which have been waiting for so long.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to
Jul 21) Try to rectify a bothersome
condition at home before tempers

begin to flare. Enjoy a happy evening with your good friends.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You may find it hard to learn the true facts about an important transaction, but later you'll see the information as been right in front of you.
VIRGO (Ang. 22 to Sept. 22)

Don't worry yourself sick over your

finances; they are in better shape than you think. Study your newspaper for some bargains. LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Wait until later in the day before you make any commitments concerning fun with friends tonight. SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)

Show your mate how truly devoted you are. Get together with business ciates and clear up some point of misunderstanding between you. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Associate only with your most understanding friends today, but remember that they have problems, too. Be sure to drive carefully. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20)

Be very cautious in any public dealings, and don't do anything which might endanger your reputation. Work on improving your efficiency. AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19)

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19)
New contacts you make today can
help you advance quickly in your
career. Your status could grow in
leaps and bounds.
PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20)
Don't rely on any hunches this
morning, as they are apt to be quite
wrong. Avoid getting into any overly serious discussions with friends.

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week starting Saturday, Jan. 30. '88 and ending Wednesday, Feb. 3, '88. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Volume

y	of shares	of trade	price	price	val
Banking and financial institutions		.=			_
Industrial Development Bank	1350	1716	1.270	1.280	1.0
Petra Bank		2100	2.100	2.100	1.0
Jordan Islamic Bank		3144 31871	1.820 1.690	1.830 1.680	0.1 0.1
Jordan Gulf Bank		31871 44236	1.690	1.160	1.0
Housing Bank		1264	1.600	1.580	1.0
Arab Jordan Investment Bank		525	2.050	2.100	1.0
Cairo Amman Bank	630	17012	26,500	27.000	5.0
Bank of Jordan	:	55019	15.750	16.500	5.0
Arab Bank		59855	122.500	121.500	10.0
lordan National Banklordan Finance House for Development		17921 7290	2.430 1.230	2.430 1.260	1.0 1.0
lordan Investment and Finance Corporation	15394	21726	1.890	1.920	1.0
Finance and Credit Corporation	86301	56155	0.660	0.650	1.0
National Financial Investments	5500	8355	1.500	1.530	1.0
National Portfolio Securities	10886	8425	0.780	0.760	1.0
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)		_	_	_	1.0
Real Estate Financing Corporation	_	_	_		2.0 10.0
Al Mashrek Exchange	_	_	_	_	10.0
Insurance and reinsurance Jordan French Insurance	1467	0274	4 550	4 300	
REFCO Life Insurance	1457 7193	9276 8776	6.550 1.240	6.200 1.210	1.0 1.0
ordan Insurance		-			1.0
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	_	_	_	_	1.0
Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance	_	_	_	_	1.0
Holy Land Insurance		_	_	_	1.0
Philadelphia Insurance		-	0.050	0.064	1.0
Arab Union International Insurance	1000	960	0.950	0.960	1.0 1.0
lordan-Guif Insurance	500	460	0.920	0.920	1.0
Universal Insurance	1000	740	0.720	0.740	1.0
General Insurance	_	-		_	1.0
ordan Eagle Insurance	_	_	_	_	10.0
Middle East Insurance	_	_	_	_	10.0 1.0
Vational Abliya Insurance	4259	5179	1,200	1.320	1.0
Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance		J. 17	-		1.0
-					
Services and industries General Investments	300	380	1.300	1.280	1 /
nma for Investment and Financial Facilities	6453	380 4075	1.300 0.650	0.630	1.0 1.0
Darco for Housing and Investment	16700	7465	0.460	0.440	1.0
Real Estate Investment (Agarco)	5700	2427	0.430	0.430	1.0
ordan Gulf Real Estate Investment	5470	1750	0.350	0.320	1.0
ordan Leasing Corporation					1.0
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	24500	2705	0.610	0.610	1.0
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Ta'jeerco ordanian Electric Power	7209	10553	1.460	1.470	1.0 1.0
rbid District Electricity	975	937	0.950	0.970	1.0
Arab International Hotels		=			1.0
Hotels and Tourism	-	_	_	_	1.0
Sarage Owners Federation Office					1.0
ordan National Shipping Lineslordan Press Foundation	2250	1823	0.800	0.810	1.0 1.0
ordan Press and Publishing	_	_		_	1.0
Oar Al Shaab Press, Printing and Publishing	54500	22315	0.400	0.410	1.0
ordan Dairy	8410	8545	3.960	1.060	1.0
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	13983	28882	2.050	2.080	1.0
ntermediate Petrochemical Industries	247070	359264	1.460	1.430	1.0
ordan Phosphate Mines	91 806	218 1097	2.500 1.340	2.400 1.360	1.0 1.0
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	1980	1097 9555	1.340 4.790	4.850	1.0
ordan Kuwait for Agricultural Products			70	7.0 .70	1.0
Aladdia Industries	54533	72567	1.330	1.320	1.0
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	90860	174985	1.970	1.900	1.0
ordan Worsted Mills	569	2561	4.500	4.500	1.0
ordan Ceramics	6750	7139	1.050	1.060	1.0
Themical Industriesordan Industries and Match (JIMCO)	32248	46650 08188	1.430	1.500 0.750	1.0
ordan industries and Match (JIMCO)	128297 3151	98188 4349	0.760 1.360	1.400	1.0 1.0
lational Steel Industries	10100	27229	2,730	2.680	1.0
Iniversal Chemical Industries	10820	19267	1.770	1.760	5.0
General Mining	_	_	_		1.0
ordan Petroleum Refinery	2800	. 19799	7.070	7.100	1.0
ordan Lime & Brick		335032 1075	. 0.210 0.500	0.250	1.0
lational Industries	2150 12550	1075 4052	0.500 0.300	0.500 0.340	1.0 1.0
ordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	27293	31835	1.170	1.150	1.0
ivestock and Poultry	210	151	0.710	0.720	1.0
ordan Pipes Manufacturing	8600	9818	1.140	1.150	1.00
afia Industrial for Plastic Bags	_				1.0
ordan Paper and Cardboard	3895	11221	2.900	2,890	1.00
rans-Jordan Minerals Research	28950	19501	0.680	0.670	1.00
ordan Himeh Mineral	_	=	_	_	1.00
Prient Dry Batteries Factory		_	_	_	1.00
Voolen Industries	1850	1324	0.730	0.700	1.00
ordan Tanning	216	410	1.900	1.900	5.0
ordan Printing and Packaging	_	_	_	_	1.0
ordan Tobacco and Cigarette	_	_	_	_	1.00
Mas Industries	_		_	_	1.00 1.00
lational Cable & Wire Manufacturing	23749	23101	0.970	0.970	1.0
ordan Spinning & Weaving	69159	65629	0.950	0.940	1.00
ordan Sulpho Chemicals	113407	323084	3.190	3.110	1.00
	53603	53873	0.990	1.000	1.00
		92575	1,050	1.090	1.00
	85720	943/3	11400		
ordan Cement Factoriesordan Glass Industries	85720 2,777,936	2,269,562	11300		

Central Bank of Jordan broadens financial trading in government bills, bonds

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — The Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) has broadened the scope of trading in financial instruments by allowing commercial banks to trade their portfolios of treasury bills and government and development bonds through investment banks and public shareholding financial companies.

Aiming at creating a secondary ment bonds for a specific percenmarket for these government bills and bonds (and other debentures issued by major industrial or commercial corporations), the CBJ has been publishing since the beginning of this month a daily "rate of return" for governmentdenominated financial papers, in a bid to set a price-mechanism for the bills and bonds depending on their maturity dates.

The CBJ lead was taken Saturday by the Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation (JIFC) which published buy/sell prices for two issues of treasury bills maturing on March 1 and April 6, 1988. JIFC said it would soon

announce prices for other bonds. JIFC General Manager Basil Jardaneh said the CBJ would no longer rediscount the government bills and bonds, and that should any commercial bank or any other entity or individual require funds or liquidity, the secondary market would be the designated

Earlier, the Jordan Times learned that the CBJ had discontinued its requirement that all banks and financial institutions buy treasury bills and govern- to buy and sell for its own account

tage of their deposits.

The measure was often criticised for limiting or straining the liquidity of some banks and, according to Jardaneh, led to unbalanced or unequal funding

by the CBJ at later stages. Economists and bankers expect the new approach to be positive and rewarding in the medium term but, as of now, they say it is just a start and things have yet to be evaluated.

The whole procedure is still not clear and may be defined further in many aspects, according to the CBJ Public Debt Department Director Kamal Al Fanek.

He said that a meeting grouping CBJ officials and representatives from all banks and financial institutions would be held Wednesday at the CBJ to examine the new mechanism. But, as it stands now, the fol-

lowing additional factors will govem the secondary market for trading government bills and

- The CBJ will not be the focus in the trading process. The central bank, however, will continue

influencing market liquidity in

- Banks and financial companies in need of liquidity are free to sell their bills and bonds without any condition. Those enjoying excess liquidity are also free to buy the financial instruments without any ceiling for purchases.

- Trading between the commercial banks is forbidden and the buy/sell orders must be registered at the Amman Financial Market

and the CBJ. — The public should trade the bonds and bills at the premises of the Amman Financial Market.

The prices offered by the designated brokers will be quoted by Reuters, which will also relay any movements in prices through out the day.

Jardaneh does not expect foreien investors to rush to buy Jordanian government bills and bonds because of higher returns in other world financial centres. But, he and other bankers, expect the market to serve as an important tool to regulate liquidity and to

consolidate national savings. According to some knowledge able sources the implementation of this new scheme comes at an opportune time, because some banks are awash with liquidity but reluctant to extend credit facilities during the current economic slowdown. As a result, the bills and bonds offer better investments since they bring profits partially exempted from taxes

Iraq cuts cash outflow

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq cut its raw materials. foreign workforce by nearly one third last year, saving more than

Egyptians, estimated to exceed a million, make up more than 90 \$50 million in hard currency, Industry Minister Hatem Abed Al Rasheed said.

In remarks published on Saturday in Al Qadisiya newspaper, Rasheed said the number of foreigners was reduced by 30 per cent and his ministry also saved Iraq \$100 million in hard currency by switching from imported to local

per cent of Iraq's foreign man-power. Thousands of Iraqis are in the armed forces fighting Iran in a

war now in its eighth year. Foreigners working in the state sector receive more than half of income in hard currency while those working in the private and mixed sectors get about 25 per

National Bank of Bahrain maintains \$11.7m profit

BAHRAIN (R) - The National lion). Bank of Bahrain (NBB), the is-land's oldest bank managed to Yacoob Mohammad attributed hold 1987 net profit unchanged at part of the fall in the bank's 4.4 million dinars (\$11.7 million) despite a difficult business climate during the year.
The bank's chairman, Ahmad

Ali Kanoo, told reporters earnings before provisions for bad and doubtful debts fell to 10.9 million dinars (\$29 million) from 11.4 million dinars (\$30 million) in

But the fall was offset by a decline in provisions to 6.5 million dinars (\$17 million) from 7.0 million (\$19 million). The bank's dividend payout was unchanged at 2.8 million dinars (\$7.5 milearnings to lower U.S. interest rates in world financial markets.

The bank increased lending during the year by a sharp 54 per cent. "In the last year there were good opportunities for lending secure opportunities," Mohammad said.

He said the bank's strategy over the coming year was to mobilise local capital by concentrating on personal loans and by increasing means of investment NBB is the second largest domestic bank in Bahrain in terms of assets

and other fees. U.S. expects

continued rise

in oil imports WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. oil consumption and oil imports are expected to continue to rise this year, the Energy Department said in its short term energy

outlook released Friday.

It said consumption was expected to grow by less than one per cent in 1988, marking the third consecutive year of increased use.

The department said domestic production would likely fall at a rate between one and two per cent this year, forcing a rise in oil imports to about 36 per cent of consumption, up from last year's 35 per cent.

Imports reached their high in 1977, at 46 per cent.

Department predicts prices to drop

The department predicted oil prices to fall to \$16 a barrel in the first quarter of 1988, down from about \$18 in the last quarter of 1987, reflecting high global stock

It added that prices should then generally rise, reaching the \$19 a barrel level by the first quarter of

Peanuts







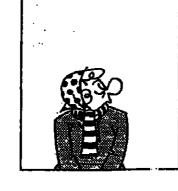


Mutt'n' Jeff





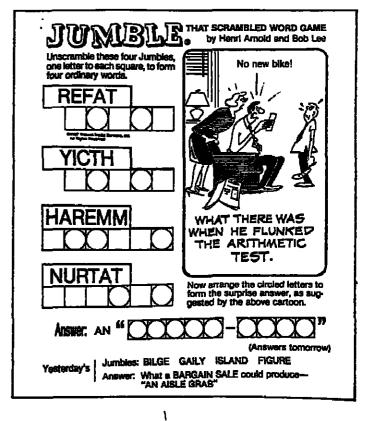
Andy Capp

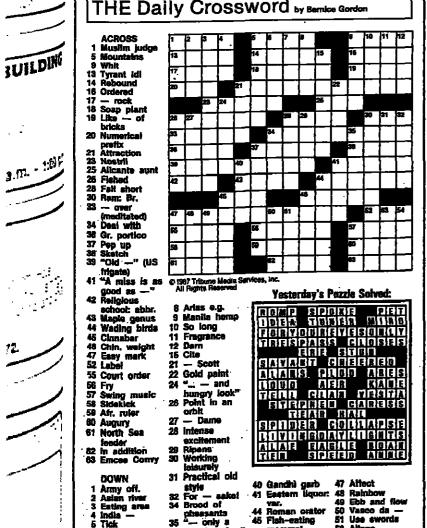






THE BETTER HALF. By Harris SUGGESTIONS "Whatever I think she'll love, she hates. So if I buy something she hates, she'll love it."





India sending 15,000 more troops to crush Tigers

COLOMBO (R) — India is to boost its troop strength in Sri Lanka to about 70,000 in an attempt to crush stubbora resistance by Tamil rebels, Sri Lankan government officials said Saturday.

The officials said 15,000 addi- planeloads." tional troops are due to arrive.

expected before Feb. 10 and a third by end of the month, they said. That would increase the number of brigades in the island to 15.

The reinforcements would be deployed in the eastern district of Trincomalee and in the Vanni Jungles of the north comprising Vavuniya, Mannar and Mullaiti-

"The influx of more troops is to finish the job against the terrorists as soon as possible," a Defence Ministry official said.

Indian military officials here said transport planes arrived at Batticaloa in the east Friday, some of them capable of carrying between 400 to 500 soldiers.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman in New Delhi said: "We have moved additional troops into Batticaloa but I am not going to go into operational details about whether there were eight or 15

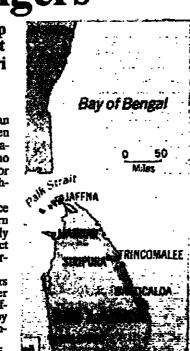
Sri Lankan officials said Indian Two Indian army brigades are soldiers in Batticaloa have been pursuing rebels from the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam who have switched their campaign for a separatist state from the northern provinces to the east.

An Indian peacekeeping force was sent to the island's northern and eastern provinces in July when both countries signed a pact to end four years of Tamil separatist war in Sri Lanka.

Military officials said the Tigers had regrouped in Batticaloa after their northern stronghold of Jaffna was wrested from them by indian soldiers in a major offensive last October. There are now five Indian bri-

gades in the Jaffna peninsula. The guerrillas in Batticaloa have staged ambushes on Indian soldiers, called on government workers not to report for work and told businessmen not to open

Civil administration in Battica-



loa and in other eastern and northern areas has been crippled for the past three weeks by the rebels' disobedience campaign.

Australia pledges aid for Mozambique

MAPUTO (R) — Australian Foreign Affairs and Trade Minister Bill Hayden pledged continued support for Mozambique when he arrived Friday for a two-day visit to the Marxist southern African nation.

Speaking to reporters at Mapu-to Airport, Hayden said his visit was linked to this week's meeting of Commonwealth foreign ministers in Zambia which discussed economic sanctions against South Africa and their possible effect on neighbouring black states hearily dependent on Pretoria.

Neither vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH

VK65

SOUTH

♦ K 1074

2 + 3 + 4 +

Desperate tactics usually end up

costing tricks. But once in a while a

hand will crop up where the astute

to the bizarre if his side is to have

any chance. If he is successful, the

his partner's hand with his

Stayman two-club bid, then of-fered his partner a choice of cor-

tracts with his jump to three

spades. North showed a maximum

no trump with diamond strength,

but that was the last thing South

South probed for a major suit in

results can be flabbergasting.

Pass Pass Pass

09

Opening lead: Queen of ♥

VAKQ3

♣J 10 6

◇J10742

"The Commonwealth has been in particular considering ways in which it can assist Mozambique. Australia, of course, will be one of the contributors in the event of any palpable programme being laid out," he said.

He said Australia's aid contribution to Mozambique was less than one million dollars (\$750,000) in the early 1980s but would rise this year to nine mil-

lion dollars (about \$7 million). This would be increased in the course of a three-year programme under which Australia has

Looking at all four hands, it is

obvious declarer can collect 11

tricks because the ace of hearts is

with West. However, the auction made it clear to West that the con-

tract was going to be hard to best,

especially since the king of hearts rated to be behind the ace-queen.

three hearts, West decided to gam-ble on declarer having some length

in hearts, and he selected the de-ceptive queen of hearts for his

iesa. He struck g

Not surprisingly, declarer thought West was leading from the

queen-jack and that East held the ace. To protect his ten from a lead

through, declarer played low from dummy to the first trick. When West continued with a low heart,

declarer again followed low from the table, confident East would

produce the ace or that his own ten

would win the trick. He was taken aback when East scored his jack at

the second trick, and a heart came

back to West's ace.
West continued with the 13th

heart. Declarer discarded a club from the table. East ruffed with

the jack and declarer overruffed. A thoroughly shaken South was now

convinced that West had played a

fourth heart in an effort to pro-mote a trump trick for himself, so

declarer cashed the ace of trumps and led another. When West fol-lowed with the seven, declarer fi-

nessed duramy's eight. Down one!

Since North had no more than

GOREN BRIDGE

TRICKS OUT OF STRAW

pledged 100 million dollars (\$75 million) to the so-called frontline states - Angola, Botswana, The six nations are at the fore-

front of black Africa's fight to end apartheid in South Africa and Pretoria's rule of Namibia. Hayden is scheduled to go on to the East African state of

Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia

Kenya, his next stop on a three-week tour of Africa and the

WASHINGTON (R) — White House officials said they would sit

back sceptically and watch how

Central American peace efforts

unfold without the pressure of U.S. military aid to Nicaragua's

U.S. officials said the adminis-

tration had no other choice fol-

lowing the congressional defeat of President Reagan's bid to send

the contras an additional \$36.25

included \$3.6 million for

can't imagine anyone around

here trying to get around this vote," said one official who asked

not to be identified.

ign policy scandal.

the burden.

"After the Iranarms scandal, I

When Congress previously cut

military aid to the contras, White

House officials tried to evade the

It became Reagan's worst fore-

After Congress defeated the

aid over Reagan's insistence that

military pressure was needed to

make Managua's Sandinista gov-

ernment comply with a regional peace plan, the White House said

Central America would take on

contra rebels.

Several injured in blasts during Bangladesh strike

DHAKA (R) — Several people, tions scheduled for March 3. including a policeman, were injured when anti-government de-monstrators set off two bombs in Dhaka hours after the latest opposition-led general strike where strike supporters briefly gripped Bangladesh Saturday.

Thailand

continues

airstrikes

Laotians

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP)

Thai warplanes continued to

pound Laotian positions atop a

contested border hill Saturday as

more Thai soldiers were ordered

into the battle, Thai army officers

The officers, contacted in

Bangkok and near the scene of

the fighting, said that troops have

retaken about two-thirds of hill

1482 but Laotian artillery fire was

slowing down advancing ground

The hill is part of a remote

border area contested by both

countries. The fighting, which be-

gan last November, has escalated

The officers, who asked not to

be identified by name, said Third

Army Commander Lt.-Gen. Siri

Tivaphan ordered infantry troops

to reinforce Thai forces following

reports that Laos had sent more

soldiers and artillery pieces into

Artillery duels continued

Saturday as the Thais sent U.S.-

made F-5 jets against the hilltop.

Thailand said one of its F-5s was

shot down by a surface-to-air

missile last Thorsday but denied

Laotian claims that a second had

Army Commander-in-Chief Gen. Chaovalit Yongchaiyudh told reporters Friday that more

than 200 Laotian troops have been killed and 300 to 400 others

wounded in the fighting. Return-

ing from an inspection of the battlefield, located some 380

kilometres north of Bangkok,

Chaovalit said that the Thais had

also destroyed a number of tanks

negotiate honestly and expedi-

tiously," White House spokes-man Marlin Fitzwater told repor-

He proclaimed the 219-211

House of Representatives defeat of the aid package Wednesday "a

vote down for freedom because

we're very sceptical if it will

"But our only recourse now is

Fitzwater left open the possibil-

ity Reagan would ask again for military aid if by Feb. 29, when

current assistance expires, there

had not been sufficient progress

towards a ceasefire in Nicaragua. Sandinista and contra officials

have met once to discuss a cease-

fire as part of a Central American

peace plan, signed by the region's five presidents last August, that

region.

Democratic Party opponents of

the aid proposal argued Nicara-guan President Daniel Ortega

was sincere in his promises to comply with the Guatemala pact.

In San Salvador, El Salvador's

government said Friday the U.S. House of Representatives' rejec-

tion of the aid package meant

in recent days.

the embattled area.

been downed earlier.

and artillery pieces.

ters Friday.

White House temporarily

accepts contra aid defeat

million in aid which would have to see if it does," he said.

against

Police said the bombs, packed with metal fragments, went off outside a court building where officials were receiving documents from candidates in municipal elections.
Witnesses said the stone-

throwing demonstrators dispersed quickly after armed riot police chased them down nearby

Twenty-one opposition parties called Saturday's strike, the 21st since Nov. 11, in a fresh attempt. to force President Hossain Mohammad Ershad to resign. The parties are also organising a boycott of parliamentary elec-

Panama denounces U.S. indictment of Noriega PANAMA CITY (R) - Panama drug charges and that he would has denounced charges against military leader Manuel Antonio

Noriega as "an obsessive camthat could spark "uneeable reactions" and warned that patience and tolerance were Panamanians were watching anxiously, diplomats said, to see

what would happen next after the Foreign Ministry Friday issued a strongly worded statement rebuking drug smuggling and racketeering charges contained in two indictments, made public in Miami Friday, against Noriega. Noriega was quoted in a U.S. television interview Priday night as saying he would contest the

The Foreign Ministry said the government "energetically and indignantly rejects... the obsessive campaign of lies and calum-nies against." Noriega and "the attempts by the North American administration... to isolate Panama and destabilise its govern-

and toys.

fight if necessary to stay in power.

The stoppage also paralysed the main port of Chittagong.

bombs exploded in the city,

dozen people were arrested but

traffic except for a few govern-

ment buses, pedal rickshaws and

Dhaka streets were empty of

On a road reserved for the

president, ministers and senior

officials, small boys played soccer and vendors sold junk foodstuff

Shops were mostly shuttered and schools closed. Trains and

river ferries were disrupted but

Bangladesh Biman, the national

airline, said it hoped to operate

no casualties reported.

vehicles carrying police.

Residents said at least five

"The government warns that it is extremely dangerous to tax the patience, tolerance and good faith of the Panamanian people with campaigns that could spark unforeseen reactions," it said. The Foreign Ministry did not specify what actions might be taken.

NASA: Shuttle can build space station in 1990s

WASHINGTON (R) — The tives to using the shuttle, but they U.S. space agency has told Conwould cost more and would take U.S. space agency has told Congress that the space shuttle was capable of building and servicing a manned space station in the

"With its present capabilities, the shuttle can deliver and support assembly of all station elements," it said in a report requested by Congress.

After the January 1986 Challenger disaster, Congress ordered the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to consider the most cost-effective way to build and service a permanently orbiting space station,

time to develop, probably de-laying the completion of a space

Under current, tentative plans, a 450,000-pound (200,000-kilogramme), 120-yard-long (110 metre) space station will be assembled in orbit over about three years, starting in 1994. By 1996 it will be permanently manned by up to eight astronauts who could stay as long as six months at

The NASA report said assembly of the station would at present require 19 shuttle flights, but that could be reduced to 14 if new,

the major U.S. space programme for the coming decade. The NASA report said there more powerful shuttle booster were other, unmanned alterna- rockets are used.

Ex-police chief finds no

shoot-to-kill policy in Belfast LONDON (AP) — A former senior British police officer who investigated the Northern Ireland prosecute, "probably makes sense."

"It certainly makes political police after they shot six people to death, said Friday he found no

evidence of a "formal, officially endorsed shoot-to-kill policy." "What I did find was a state of affairs where some junior officers thought that maybe was expected of them," John Stalker, former

deputy chief constable of Greater Manchester, said on Channel 4 Anglo-Irish relations worsened when the attorney general, Sir Patrick Mayhew, told the House of Commons on Jan. 25 that there would be no prosecutions of

the case, despite evidence of perversion of justice. Stalker said Friday that any prosecutions should have been made 2½ years ago when he presented his evidence, and that

sense; and probably would be oppressive, almost, now to call for the prosecution of relatively junior officers." Police said Friday they found a

Soviet-made grenade launcher and 26 grenades in an arms cache apparently destined for Protestant militants in Belfast.

Another arms load destined for the Irish Republican Army (IRA) also contained two Soviet-made grenade launchers, police said. The IRA consignment was uncovered Wednesday in an ice

cream truck stopped by police police officers in connection with outside Belfast, and the Protestant load was found Thursday in an outhouse behind a building in north Belfast, police said.

Press Association, the British presented his evidence, and that the decision at this point not to the largest found in recent years.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION TENDER NOTICE

NO. TCC1/88

SUPPLY OF HEAVY MATERIALS FOR LOCAL LINE PLANT PROJECTS

The Telecommunications Corporation of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (TCC) announces Tender No. TCC 1/88 for the Supply of Heavy Materials for Local Line Plant Projects such as cables, wooden poles. P.V.C. pipes, manhole covers and dropwire, as part of the implementation programme of the Five-Year Development Plan for the expansion of the Telephone

The Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan has applied for a loan from the World Bank, and intends to use the proceeds of this loan to finance part of the cost of the project for which this invitation to bid is issued. As the available World Bank financing is insufficient to cover all the cost of this procurement. bidders are invited to submit in addition to the bid price a financing offer, at their option, to finance the contract cost or part

All interested manufacturers/suppliers from the World Bank member countries, Switzerland, and Taiwan - China, are invited to participate in this tender, in accordance with the terms, stipulations and technical specifications contained in the bidding documents.

Bidding Documents may be obtained from the office of the Secretary of Tender Committee. P.O. Box 1689, Telecommunications Corporation, Amman - Jordan, as of Thursday, February 11, 1988 against a payment of a non-refundable fee of one hundred (100) Jordanian Dinars (JD).

Bids, accompanied by bid security, are to be submitted in English to the office of the Secretary of Tender Committee not later than 12:00 noon local time on Saturday, April 16, 1988.

Director General Eng. Mohammad Shahid Ismail

"Now the major burden shifts to the other Democratic (Central American) countries to keep gional peace plan.

ban, in part by diverting to the rebels profits from arms sold to sought an end to guerrilla wars and democratic reforms in the

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet time (0420 GMT) "with a view to Union conducted an underground nuclear test explosion the field of physics of the nuclear " ground nuclear test explosion Saturday at its site in Semipala-tinsk in central Asia, TASS news

a vield of up to 20 kilotonnes, was ded a unilateral moratorium on carried out at 7.20 a.m. Moscow'

explosion." The test was the first carried

Soviets conduct nuclear test

agency reported.

TASS said the explosion, with

Total agency reported.

The since the Soviet Union ennuclear testing last February.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION TENDER NOTICE NO. TCC 2/88

SUPPLY OF LOCAL LINE PLANT SERVICES AND ACCESSORIES

The Telecommunications Corporation of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (TCC) announces Tender No. TCC 2/88 for the Supply of Local Line Plant Services and Accessories as part of the Implementation programme of the Five-Year Development Plan for the expansion of the Telephone Network in Jordan. Specialised companies are hereby invited to submit their bids in accordance with the terms, stipulations & technical specifications contained in the Bidding Documents.

Bidders are requested to submit, in addition to bid price, a financing proposal to finance the cost of the subsequent contract to be awarded.

Bidding Documents may be obtained from the office of the Secretary of Tender Committee, Telecommunications Corporation, P.O. Box 1689, Amman - Jordan, as of Thursday, February 11, 1988, against a payment of a non-refundable fee of five hundred (500) Jordanian Dinars (JD).

Bids, accompanied by bid security, are to be submitted in English to the office of the Secretary of Tender Committee not later than 12:00 noon, local time on Saturday, May 21, 1988. Director General

Eng. Mohammad Shahid Ismail

Tension mounts just days before Iowa caucuses

WASHINGTON (AP) — With the pivotal lowa caucuses just days away, the tension and hilarity of the presidential campaign both increased.

Bob Dole and George Bush, the Republicans' two top conten-ders, Friday continued to flout the party's unwritten rule of etiquette that candidates should not

speak ill of his Republican rivals. Meanwhile, Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis won among Democrats and Dole won among Republicans in a lighthearted, semi-scientific poll in the Iowa town of Emmetsburg in which residents showed their pre-

ference by flushing toilets on cue. Officials judged the poll by measuring the drop in the water level of the town's 250,000-gallon

(946,000-liter) tank. It's not a very scientific gauge, acknowledged Emmetsburg city employee William McGrath, "but it's something to be doing.
A lot of people really get into it."
Another poll — this one con-

ducted in a more scientific manner for several television stations - showed Rep. Richard Gephardt of Missouri leading among the Democrats for the Monday caucuses, with Sen. Paul Simon of Illinois and Dukakis tied just behind him.

The Iowa caucuses, in which delegates representing the candidates vie to be chosen to attend the parties' nation nominating conventions this summer, are regarded as the first decisive test in the lengthy process of choosing the major parties' candidates for the November elections.

In the campaign's noisiest rival-ry, Vice President Bush Friday refused Sen. Dole's demands that he apologise for harsh remarks by

Bush's Iowa campaign chairman.
The verbal battle between the top two Republican contenders focused attention on the two and stole the limelight from the other candidates, but Bush complained that it was obstructing his cam-

COLUMNS 768

Satellites to hunt for water in UAE

ABU DHABI (R) - The United States and the United Arab Emirates Saturday signed a four-year agreement under which American satellites will search for water in the desert country, embassy officials said.

Saudis execute drug smuggler

RIYADH (R) — A Chadian was beheaded in the red sea city of Jeddah Friday after confessing to drug smuggling, the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported. The agency said police found more than 25 million narcotic pills in Ahmad Ibn Ali Ibn Mohammad's house in addition to 25 cases of alcoholic drinks, banned in Saudi Arabia which follows Islamic Sharia Law. Saudi Arabia introduced capital punishment for drugs cases last March and police say drug smuggling had decreased considerably since. Beheadings of drug smugglers, murderers and rapists are carried out in a public square after noon Muslim prayers.

Gambling is serious problem in China

PEKING (AP) — From the nation's pigsties to the homes of Communist Party members, gambling is making a comeback in China, the official Xinhua News Agency said Friday. "Gambling rears its ugly head again." Xinhua warned in reporting that gambling cases increased from 139,000 cases in 1986 to 173,000 cases involving 635,000 people last year. Xinhua said gambling, banned since the Communist takeover in 1949, ranges from dice, poker and billiards to sitting by the road and guessing whether the last digit of a vehicle licence plate will be odd or even. "After the issuing of regulations governing offences against public order last year, gambling activities have become more covert." Xinhua said. "They are conducted in peasants' homes located in remote mountainous areas, pigsties and credit cooperatives, and even in homes of Communist Party members and cadres." It said stakes sometimes run into the thousands of yuan (3.7 yuan equals one U.S. dollar), several times the annual income of a Chinese farmer, and that gambling has led to family disputes, divorce, graft, embezzlement, robbery and murder.

One-shot needle proposed

AMARILLO, Texas (R) — A possible solution to part of the AIDS problem — needles that drug addicts cannot use more than once — has been developed by a local restaurateur. William Douglass, 34, is seeking a patent on his invention, which is still in the design stage but which he calls absolutely foolproof. The Douglass needle has an internal catch in the syringe which, after the first shot, renders it useless. Reuse of AIDS-infected needles has been cited as a major cause of the disease among intravenous drug users. Douglass came up with the idea while watching a news report about New York City's plan to distribute free needles to drug addicts to help prevent the spread of AIDS. He felt the programme was doomed to failure. "The junkies are going to use those needles more than once," he said. "What about the guy who doesn't get a clean needle? He'll junkies are going to use those needles more than once," he he'll junkies are going to use those needle? He'll junkies are going to use the design for the springer took two was took to the programme took two was took to the programme. needle." Developing the design for the syringe took two weeks. The catch mechanism will cost about one cent per needle, Douglass said. He could not say when his creation might hit the

Olympic village offers free condoms

CALGARY, Alberta (R) — Athletes at the Winter Olympics can get free condoms — but they will have to pay if they want soft-porn magazines. The two commodities will be available to the 2,500 competitors expected at the Feb. 13-28 games and reflect what organisers say are realities of life in 1988. "We're not running a Victorian temperance society here," said Calgary Olympic Village Mayor Bob Niven of the girlie magazines on sale in the village's store. "We're no different from the world outside." The same philosophy underscores the free condoms policy, which medical officers have instituted to help guard against the sexual transmission of AIDS. "We're not handing out condoms but if an athlete wants them they are available at no cost from the pharmacy," said athlete and emergency services supervisor Annete Heasman. "It's because of the high incidence of AIDS and because public health authorities feel it's in line with preventive care," she said. The Calgary Olympic Village, opened Friday by International Olympic Committee President Juan Antonio Samaranch, will be home to nearly 2,000 athletes and officials during the games, including bob-sledding Crown Prince Albert of Monaco. A further 1,000 athletes, many competitors in exhibition and demonstration sports, are being housed at two more sites outside Calgary.

Crowd mobs for Michael Jackson tickets

ROME (AP) — About 100 fans of Michael Jackson mobbed a Rome bank and disrupted traffic after a local radio station mistakenly announced that tickets for the singer's Italian tour in May would go on sale immediately. Organisers of Jackson's tour said the 430 branches of the Banca Nazionale Del Lavoro would accept orders for the concerts starting Feb. 10 and send tickets to the homes of the concertgoers. But a crowd of young people wove through traffic in front of the bank on Rome's Via Veneto after they heard a morning broadcast on one of the city's private stations, which informed listeners that tickets for the rock star's three concerts in Italy were available immediately at the bank. The bank decided to oblige those who showed up Friday by taking their orders. Jackson will open a European tour with concerts at Rome's 50,000 seat Flaminio Stadium on May 23 and 24. He will perform a third concert on May 29 in the 45,000-seat municipal soccer stadium in the northern city of Turin. Prices for the tickets will range from 36,000 lire to 55,000 lire (\$30 to \$45).

Reagan feted at surprise party

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan's wife Nancy and his official family threw a surprise 77th birthday party for America's oldest chief executive Friday that featured the debut of a special song honouring him. "And I used to think I wanted an Oscar," said Reagan, referring to a top film industry award, after broadway composer Marvin Hamlisch played the song for 70 guests at a huncheon in the White House State Dining Room. Reagan, who seemed genuinely surprised by the birthday fete—
he will actually celebrate his 77th birthday Saturday—quipped
that since he now had a song of his own, "I'm going to take
singing lessons." Later Mrs. Reagan, her eyes glistening with
tears, gave her husband a hug and kiss as White House officials,
members of the cabinet and friends sang "happy birthday."

Man chained for 6 years after ax attack

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) - A man thought to be insane after he ran amok with an ax was shackled in a hut by his father for six years, a newspaper has reported. Peter Chrimimba, 47, was chained by an ox harness around his neck and arms by his 70-year-old father, Munetsi, in the Rushinga district in north eastern Zimbabwe, the Herald reported. The younger Chirimin-ba was shackled in the lut in 1982. He was provided with food, but had not had a bath until Wednesday, when police took him to a hospital, the newspaper said. His father told the Herald his son was treated by a traditional healer, commonly known as a witch doctor, after the violent outbursts, but afterward he continued to assault members of the family. "I decided to chain him up and lock him in the hut," said the elder Chirimimba. Police said they were investigating the case, but viewed it with "understanding."

